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திருவுருவச்சிலை திறப்பு

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** unveiling the Manimandapam with the statue of 'Dravidian luminary' Iyothee Thasa Pandithar at a cost of Rs.2.49 crore on behalf of the Information and Public Relations Department, at the Gandhi Mandapam Complex in Guindy, Chennai, on 01.12.2023.

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Editor and Publisher
D.Mohan I.A.S.,
Director of Information &
Public Relations and Ex-officio
Joint Secretary to Government

Administrative Editor
R. Anna
Joint Director (Publications)

Joint Editor
A. Maheswari
Asst. Director

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K. Subash

Reporter
S.R.S. Srindar
J. Jayasimhan

Artist
R. Uma Maheswari

Junior Proof Reader
D. Priya

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Tamilarasu Press
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Taramani, Chennai - 600 113.
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Edhiradhaak kaakkum arivinaark killai
adhira varuvadhoar noiy ***-Kural 429***

Those who have the capacity to foresee events and protect themselves, are saved the distress of their shocking impact.

- From Kalaignar's commentary on the Kural

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FIRST WRAPPER

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, **Thiru.M.K.Stalin,** unveiled a life-size statue of the former Prime Minister of India, **Thiru. V.P.Singh**, hailed as the Guardian of Social Justice, at the Presidency College campus in Chennai, on behalf of the Information and Public Relations Department, on 27.11.2023.

To keep abreast of Government news tndiprnews DIPR TN tndipr TN DIPR www.dipr.tn.gov.in

Hon'ble Chief Minister inspects places affected by Michaung cyclone, distributes relief materials

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K. Stalin** addressed media persons after reviewing the preparatory measures in view of the Michaung Cyclone and heavy rains, at the State Emergency Operations Centre, Chepauk on 03.12.2023.

On 01.12.2023 and 02.12.2023, I issued directions to Government high officials, employees of the Greater Chennai Corporation and District Collectors.

Based on that, 121 multi-purpose protection centres were set up. The District Collectors have already been advised to shift people from the vulnerable areas to 4,967 relief centres well in advance.

Especially in Mayiladuthurai, Nagapattinam, Thiruvallur, Cuddalore, Chengalpattu and Chennai Districts, 14 groups, consisting of 350 personnel from the Tamil Nadu Disaster Management Agency and 9 groups of 225 personnel belonging to the National Disaster Management Agency are in a state of readiness.

About 2.44 crore people in Chennai, Thiruvallur, Kancheepuram, Chengalpattu, Villupuram and

Cuddalore Districts have been given advance warning messages through SMS.

We have sent advance precautionary messages continuously through 437 centres to the public and fishermen.

Especially for the fishermen, advance cautionary messages have been sent to shift their boats to places of safety.

We have been sending messages about the cyclone and heavy rains to the public through media and press releases. We have explained in detail through messages what the public should do and should not do to protect themselves from the cyclone.

685 affected people from the rain-affected Thiruvallur, Chennai, Kancheepuram and Chengalpattu Districts were accommodated in 11 relief centres.

Monitoring officers are taking all-out precautionary measures. All the control rooms of the State Emergency Operations Centre, the Greater Chennai Corporation integrated command, and the Electricity Board are working in co-ordination round-the-clock.

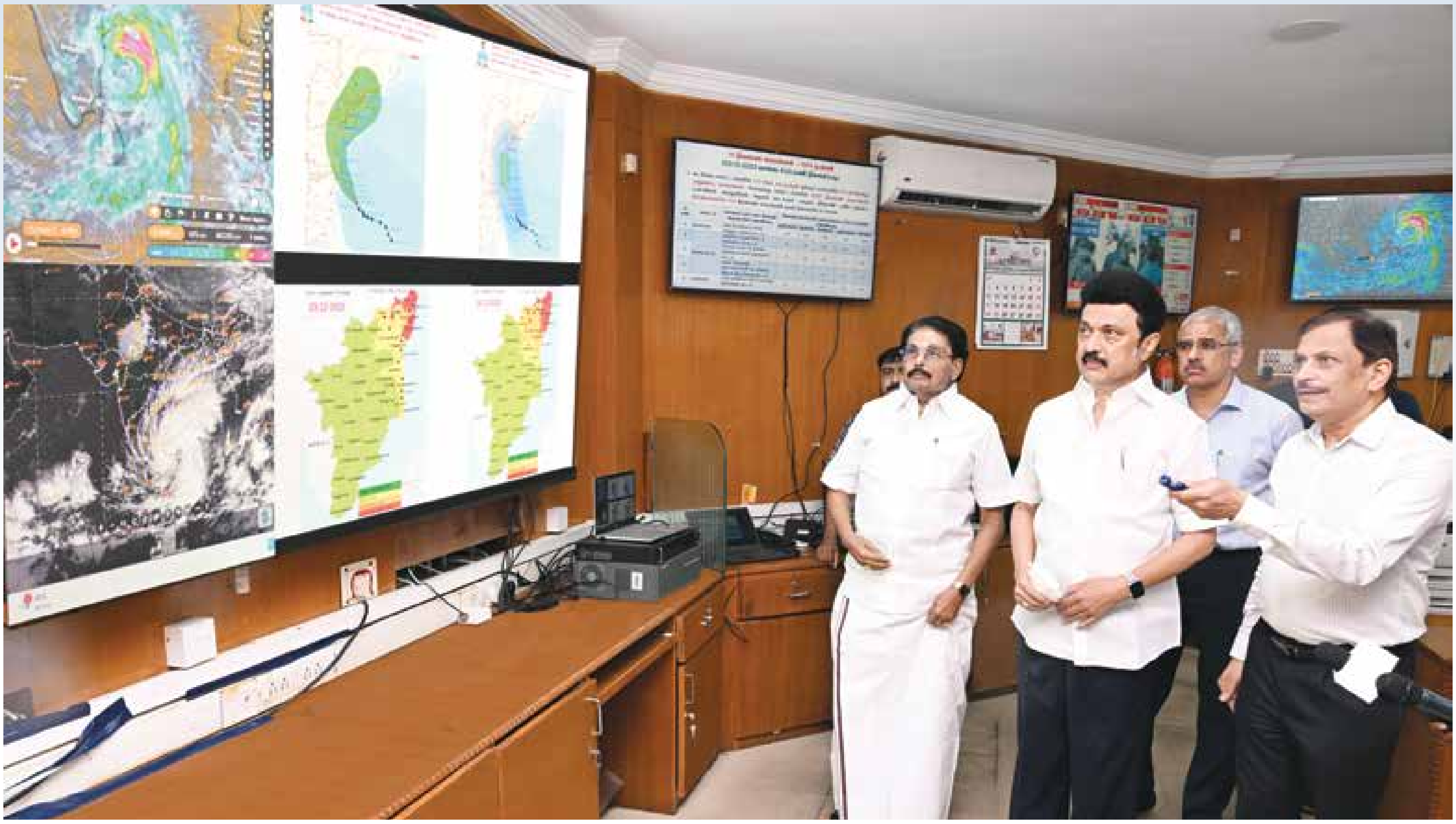
I would like to inform the public the following

It has been reported that in view of the cyclone, there will be heavy rains accompanied by strong winds. Due to this electric posts and electric wires and trees are likely to fall. I appeal to the public to avoid coming out unnecessarily at all costs.

If necessary, the public can stay in relief centres on the advice of district administration and the corporations. Relief centres have been directed to provide all basic facilities to those who resort to them.

As far as Chennai is concerned, Hon'ble Ministers Thiru.K.N. Nehru, Thiru.K.K.S.S.R.Ramachandran,Thiru. ThangamThenarasu,Thiru.Ma.Subramanianand Thiru. Sekar Babu are working in full swing.

For Chengalpattu District, Hon'ble Minister Thiru. T.M. Anbarasan has been deputed. In



Thiruvallur District, Hon'ble Minister Thiru. Moorthy is monitoring the relief operations.

It is Hon'ble Minister, Thiru. Muthusamy in Kancheepuram District and Hon'ble Minister Thiru. Gandhi in Ranipet District.

Hon'ble Chief Minister informs Hon'ble Union Home Minister of measures being taken to tackle cyclone devastation

After the Michaung storm hit Tamil Nadu due to low pressure in the Bay of Bengal, the Hon'ble Union Home Minister Thiru. Amit Shah enquired of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, by phone, about the damages caused in different parts of Tamil Nadu and the relief measures undertaken by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister explained in detail about the damages in Chennai, Thiruvallur, Kancheepuram, and Chengalpattu Districts and the steps that were being taken. He explained that the National Disaster Management Agency, the State Disaster Management Agency and the State police officers were working in co-ordination and taking up relief measures swiftly. The Hon'ble Chief Minister appealed to the Union Minister to send additional National Disaster Management forces to Tamil Nadu. He said after taking immediate relief measures, the details of the damages caused by the storm would be taken and sent to the Union Government for necessary Central assistance.

The Hon'ble Union Minister accepted the demand of the Hon'ble Chief Minister and assured him that necessary assistance would be provided to Tamil Nadu.

Apart from the Ministers, local MPs, MLAs, Local Body representatives and people's representatives are extending all help for the relief work on their part.

During the rains in the last 3 days, Government staff engaged in relief work have worked efficiently throughout day and night. I congratulate them on that.

At the same time, I appeal to them to work in the next two days and conduct the relief works in the affected areas.

I also appeal to the media to stand with the Government in this hour of crisis.

Relief works on war-footing

After the advent of the North-East Monsoon in Tamil Nadu in the last 2 days, various parts of the State, especially Chennai, Kancheepuram, Thiruvallur and Chengalpattu Districts experienced unprecedented rains due to formation of Michaung Cyclone in the Bay of Bengal. The affected people were provided retrieval and relief measures on a war-footing scale by the Government of Tamil Nadu.

The impact of the storm and the subsequent rains was very heavy especially in Chennai, Thiruvallur, Kancheepuram and Chengalpattu Districts. In the affected Districts, Hon'ble Ministers and high Government officials undertook field surveys, initiated immediate relief works and also carried out restoration works on a war footing. In Chennai Corporation, an I.A.S. Officer was appointed for every division and all of them were on the field.

Earlier, on the precautionary and retrieval measures in view of the North-East Monsoon and the advance measures to be taken due to formation of a cyclone in the Bay of Bengal, the Hon'ble Chief Minister conducted a video conferencing with the 12 District Collectors of Chennai, Thiruvallur, Chengalpattu, Kancheepuram, Viluppuram, Cuddalore, Mayiladuthurai, Nagapattinam Tiruvarur, Thanjavur, Vellore and Ranipet on 01.12.2023, and issued the necessary instructions.

Subsequently, on 02.12.2023, the Hon'ble Chief Minister visited the State Emergency Operation centre of the Revenue and Disaster Management at Ezhilagam in Chennai and interacted with the District Collectors, Corporation Commissioners and the public through telephones and apprised himself of the field-level information.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister on 03.12.2023 visited the State Emergency

Fourth Wrapper

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** inspected the areas affected by heavy rains in Otteri, Kandanchavadi, Yanaikavuni, Kalyanapuram and Taramani on 05.12.2023 and 06.12.2023 in Chennai Corporation and distributed essentials including food, clothes and bed sheets to the affected people.

Operation Centre at Chepauk and reviewed the precautionary measures taken in view of the heavy rains and Michaung Cyclone.

On 05.12.2023, the Hon'ble Chief Minister visited the community centre at Kannappar Ground, and enquired about the facilities provided to them and distributed food, mats, and bed sheets to the inmates. He assured them that the removal of rain water is being done on a war footing and that the situation would return to normal soon, for their early return to their houses.

Following this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister visited the special medical camp at Kalyanapuram and enquired of the doctors about the medical facilities given to the patients. He also distributed food, bed sheets and mats to the inmates of the camp.

Later, the Hon'ble Chief Minister visited the people who had been accommodated in the Government Higher Secondary School in Yanaikavuni and distributed food, bed sheets and mats to them.

Later, he went to the Chennai Corporation office and interacted with conservancy workers who had come from different parts of the State. He congratulated the conservancy workers for undertaking such works at a crucial time. He appealed to them to carry out their work in a thorough manner.

Subsequently, the Hon'ble ChiefMinistervisitedtheIntegratedCommand and Control Centre at the Greater Chennai

Greater Chennai Corporation Office

Corporation and enquired about the steps being taken to drain water from the affected areas with the Hon'ble Minister for Municipal Administration, Thiru. K.N.Nehru, Hon'ble Minister for HR and CE, Thiru. P.K.Sekar Babu, Mayor of Greater Chennai Corporation, Tmt. R.Priya, Thiru. I.Paranthaman, M.L.A., the Chief Secretary, Thiru. Shiv Das Meena, I.A.S., Greater Chennai Corporation Commissioner, Dr.J.Radhakrishnan, I.A.S., Principal Secretary of the Municipal Administration and Water Supply, Dr. D.Karthikeyan I.A.S., Managing Director of the TWAD Board Dr.T.G.Vinay, I.A.S., Joint Managing Director of the TWAD Board, Thiru. V.Saravanan, I.A.S., Additional Commissioner of the Greater Chennai Corporation, Tmt. R.Lalitha, I.A.S., and other high Government officials.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin addressed the media.

Welcome to all of you. Yesterday, the city received unprecedented rains. As per the data provided by the Greater Chennai Corporation, Meenambakkam received 43 cm and Perungudi 44 cm. I don't want to explain any further as you yourself know about the impact of such rains.

During the year 2015, during rains, water stagnated in many places in the city. After the present Government took over, there were heavy rains in November 2021. Taking into consideration the amount of rain received during that time, we planned to upgrade the rain water drainage structure in Chennai Corporation and surrounding areas. We have taken many steps. We also appointed a committee of experts under the chairmanship of retired I.A.S., Officer, Thiru. Thiruppugazh.

As per the recommendations of that Committee, we undertook a floodwater drainage upgradation scheme at a total cost of Rs. 4,000 crore. Thereafter, the impact of the unprecedented rains was less when

Choolai Kannappar Ground

Choolai Kannappar Ground

Kalyanapuram

Chennai, Ennore

compared to the previous period. I hope you all certainly agree with me.

For example, during 2015 in the previous regime, you would not have forgotten the impact of the flood situation. When compared to that, Nungambakkam received 29.4 cm of rain and Meenambakkam received 34.5 cm of rain. You all know that the rain received after the Michaung Cyclone this time was much more when compared to the previous period. Perungudi alone this time received 44 cm of rain and Meenambakkam received 43 cm of rain in 36 hours. This is very, very heavy.

Despite the heavy floods, due to the precautionary measures and relief works taken by the Government, the loss of lives and other issues have come down considerably. In the 2015 floods, 199 persons lost their lives. But in the current floods only 7 persons died. Even this should not have happened. But it was due to unavoidable circumstances. I feel really sorry for it. In Chengalpattu District some people died due to wall collapse. An accident occurred near Guru Nanak College. You all know about the accident. We have not received the full information yet. Once we do, we shall inform you.

At present 61,666 persons have been accommodated in relief centres. 11 lakh food packets have been distributed. The affected people have been provided all the required things. From this morning, one lakh milk packets have been distributed. Necessary things have been provided. Though we have completed the

rain water drainage work in a good manner, the rain water at the estuaries of Adyar and Cooum rivers took time to drain in the sea due to high extent of sea waves. But due to various steps taken by the Government, the impact of rains was reduced to a great extent. Rain water is also being drained speedily.

I would like to mention the precautionary measures taken by the Government. In the year 2015, over one lakh cubic ft. of water was released from the Chembarambakkam Lake without any pre-planning. That was the reason for the heavy floods. You all know it. That was an artificial flood and this time it was natural floods. You must differentiate between the two situations.

Due to precautionary measures taken by this Government, in the last 4 days, water from the Chembarambakkam was released and thereby we were able to manage the situation. During the heavy rains, at the maximum we released 8,000 cubic ft. of water from Chembarambakkam.

Despite various precautionary measures taken by the Government, due to unprecedented rains, we were able

Otteri, Nallan Canal

Kandanchavadi

to see, directly and through media reports, flooding in Chennai and its surrounding areas, resulting in sufferings to people. Though people had undergone travails due to this, the duty of the true Government is to reduce the impact of the suffering and to take steps to bring people out of their difficult situation. In this connection, even before the rain stopped, we brought conservancy workers from different parts of the State to Chennai.

You yourself could see them engaged in conservancy works. They all co-ordinate with workers of the Chennai, Tambaram and Avadi Corporations. Still, some more conservancy workers are on the way. They are all working to bring normalcy in all the affected places.

As the local body representatives, MLAs, MPs and Hon'ble Ministers are taking steps, the city is slowly coming back to normalcy. Many

Inspected the proper draining of rain water into the Cooum estuary near the Napier Bridge.

Agaram, Anandan Park

Cooks Road area

Taramani, Bharathi Nagar

Anagaputhur area

Kolathur Selvi Nagar

Anagaputhur area

I.A.S. officers have been appointed and they are also on the job.

The Leader of Opposition has charged that even after spending Rs. 4,000 crore for rain water drainage works, Chennai is flooded with water. I would like to give to him one reply, that is, I do not want to make the issue political. Since, he has been repeating the charge, I would like to tell him that only because we spent Rs.4,000 crore, Chennai has escaped from the ravages of the rains that the city received that are unprecedented in the last 47 years. This was possible only because we planned and spent properly and executed the work. In their days, they didn't do anything, but the DMK Government has done so much in the past 2 years. This much I want to share with you.

Distribution of food and other relief materials

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, on 06.12.2023 distributed food and rice, bedsheets and essential articles to people in the Kolathur area affected by Michaung Cyclone.

In the Otteri area under the Kolathur constituency, people affected by heavy rains were given food, rice, bed sheets and other relief materials. Later, he inspected the water flow in the Otteri Nullah Canal.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also distributed food packets and relief materials to the people affected in the Cooks Road area. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also sent relief materials by boat to people who were stranded because of the flooding.

Then the Hon'ble Chief Minister distributed food and required materials to the affected people in Agaram, Anandan Park, Balaji Nagar Main Road and Selvi Nagar areas.

After reviewing the flood relief works in the Kolathur areas, the Hon'ble Chief Minister directed the officials to pump out rain water from the heavily stagnated areas on a war footing and to restore power connection to areas where rainwater had drained.

Earlier, the Hon'ble Chief Minister distributed relief materials to the affected people in the Taramani, Bharathi Nagar, Thoraipakkam, and Kallukuttai areas under the Greater Chennai Corporation. He also inspected the proper draining of rain water into the Cooum estuary near Napier Bridge.

Michaung damages: Hon’ble Chief Minister writes to Hon’ble PM seeking Rs.5,060 crore as interim relief

D.O.Letter of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K. Stalin addressed to the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India Thiru.Narendra Modi – 05.12.2023.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, has written a letter to the Hon’ble Prime Minister of India Thiru. Narendra Modi, on 05.12.2023, seeking Rs.5,060 crore as interim relief to undertake relief works in Michaung Cyclone affected areas in Tamil Nadu.

In the letter, the Hon’ble Chief Minister pointed out that due to the Michaung Cyclone on December 2,3 and 4, the four Districts Chennai, Thiruvallur, Kancheepuram and Chengalpattu received unprecedented heavy rains. Due to the rains in these four districts, areas under Chennai Corporation especially suffered heavy damages. Various infrastructure facilities, including roads, bridges and public buildings, were heavily damaged. These damages have affected the livelihood of lakhs of people. These damages were mentioned category-wise by the Hon’ble Chief Minister in his letter with the appeal to the Hon’ble Prime Minister to sanction Rs.5,060 crore to Tamil Nadu as interim relief.

Already work has started to assess the damages caused by the Michaung Cyclone. After completing the assessment, a detailed damage report would be prepared, demanding additional funds for relief works. The Hon’ble Chief Minister in his letter appealed to the Hon’ble Prime Minister to send a team from the Union Ministry to assess the damages caused by the Michaung Cyclone.

News In Picture

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu donates to Flag Day Fund

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K. Stalin** presented a donation to Chennai District Collector Tmt.Rashmi Siddharth Jagade I.A.S., on the occasion of Flag Day at the Secretariat on 07.12.2023.

Hon'ble Union Minister Rajnath Singh sees Michaung cyclone damages, apprised of relief works

The Hon'ble Union Minister for Defence, Thiru. Rajnath Singh, came to Chennai on 07.12.2023 to visit the Michaung Cyclone-affected Chennai, Chengalpattu, Kancheepuram and Tiruvallur Districts and to hold discussions with the State Government. The Hon'ble Union Minister was accompanied by the Hon'ble Union Minister of State for Fisheries, Animal Husbandry, Dairy, and Information and Broadcasting, Thiru. L.Murugan and the Secretary of the National Disaster Management Authority, Thiru. Kamal Kishore.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K. Stalin** appealed to the Hon'ble Union Minister **Thiru. Rajnath Singh** to release necessary funds – 07.12.2023.

The Hon'ble Union Minister made an aerial survey of the flood-affected areas along with the Hon'ble Minister for Finance and Human Resources Development, Thiru. Thangam Thenarasu and the Chief Secretary, Thiru. Shiv Das Meena I.A.S., who explained to the Hon'ble Union Minister the extent of damages caused by the Michaung Cyclone.

Later, an advisory meeting was held at the Secretariat, in which the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, the Hon'ble Union Minister for Defence, Thiru. Rajnath Singh, Union and the State Government Ministers and officials participated.

Precautionary Measures

At the meeting, a review meeting was held about the precautionary measures to be taken by the District Collectors of Chennai, Thiruvallur, Chengalpattu, Kancheepuram, Viluppuram, Cuddalore, Mayiladuthurai, Nagapattinam, Tiruvarur, Thanjavur, Vellore and Ranipet through video conferencing. The affected people should be given advance warning; they should be shifted to relief centres and should be provided with basic facilities including food, protected water supply, and power supply; steps must be taken by the Electricity Board to prevent accidents due to power leakages during the flood and rainy season; round-the-clock medical facilities in Government Hospitals must be ensured and the kitchen for preparing food for the affected people must be kept ready. The district officials were advised to co-ordinate the work of departments such as the district administration, corporations,

local bodies, police department and fire and rescue department for carrying out these tasks.

It was pointed out that due to the Michaung cyclone, Chennai, Thiruvallur, Kancheepuram, and Chengalpattu Districts received a total of 109.41 cm of rain on December 3rd and 4th and suffered extensive damages. Poonamallee in Thiruvallur District recorded an unprecedented 32 cms and Perungudi in Chennai 29 cm of rain.

Works done on a war-footing

The Hon'ble Union Minister was informed that in the affected districts, under the supervision of State Ministers and high Government officials, field-level inspection was carried out and necessary relief was provided to the affected people and renovation works carried out on a war-footing.

To intensify rescue and relief operations for the affected people, 20 State Ministers and more than 50 I.A.S. and I.P.S. officers have been deployed and all of them are working on the field. The affected people were shifted to safer places and provided food, drinking water, bed-sheets and other necessary things and medical camps were conducted to prevent rain-related diseases to the affected people.

The Hon'ble Union Minister was apprised of the joint efforts made by the National Disaster Management Authority and the State-level authority in undertaking relief operations.

Damages caused to roads, bridges, common buildings and various other infrastructure and to micro, small and medium enterprises and small traders and lakhs of people in Chennai, Chengalpattu, Kancheepuram and Thiruvallur Districts were explained in detail to the Hon'ble Union Minister Thiru. Rajnath Singh.

Interim Relief

The Hon'ble Chief Minister mentioned the letter written by him to the Hon'ble Prime Minister seeking Rs.5,060 crore as interim relief and urged early release of interim relief for carrying out relief works in the flood affected areas.

Earlier, the Hon'ble Chief Minister thanked the Hon'ble Union Minister for rushing to flood-affected Chennai and the neighbouring districts and inspected the damages.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister on the occasion handed over a copy of the memorandum to the Union Minister seeking interim relief to carry

out relief operations in Michaung Cyclone affected areas.

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin after the advisory meeting with the Hon'ble Union Minister Thiru. Rajnath Singh

The Hon'ble Union Minister for Defence, Thiru. Rajnath Singh, made an on-the-spot inspection of the flood affected areas in Chennai and the surrounding areas.

For this, I thank the Hon'ble Union Minister on behalf of the people of Tamil Nadu and the State Government.

Chennai City and its people are slowly returning to normalcy after the heavy damage caused by the unprecedented rains.

To provide relief to the affected people, the State Government has been taking various steps on a war footing.

Hon'ble Ministers, MPs, MLAs, local body members, Government officials, and self-help group volunteers have been jointly undertaking relief works.

Due to effective steps taken by the State Government, loss of lives and damages to properties has been averted to a large extent.

To repair the damaged roads, buildings, and to provide relief to the affected people, I have made an appeal to the Hon'ble Prime Minister to sanction Rs.5,060 crore from the National Disaster Fund as interim relief.

I have already given a memorandum to the Hon'ble Union Minister. A Central team is likely to visit Tamil Nadu to assess damages caused by the cyclone.

The Hon'ble Union Minister has assured to consider our demand and agreed to sanction necessary funds.

The State Government would continue to take all possible steps to bring normalcy in the State.

Nandri, Vanakkam.

Hon'ble Chief Minister takes proactive steps to provide relief to those hit by Michaung cyclone

Chennai District experienced very heavy rains on December 3 and 4 during the Michaung Cyclone in Tamil Nadu. Some parts of Chengalpattu, Kancheepuram and Thiruvallur Districts received unprecedented rains and caused heavy damages.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** announced cash relief of Rs. 6,000 to those who lost their livelihood during the Michaung Cyclone and the subsequent floods - 09.12.2023.

The Government of Tamil Nadu, on the basis of the Indian Meteorological Centre's forewarning of Michaung, took advance precautionary measures. Under the leadership of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, field reviews were made and a review meeting was conducted and preventive measures were taken. Even before the relief measures were undertaken, volunteers of the National Disaster Management Agency, State Disaster Management Agency, Fire and Rescue Services Department were in readiness. Diesel motors and pumpsets, boats, JCBs and tree-cutting machines were kept in a state of readiness in the Divisional offices of the Chennai Corporation. They were involved in relief operations immediately after the cyclone and the subsequent rains hit the State. Twenty Ministers and fifty I.A.S. and I.P.S. officers were involved in the relief operations in the affected areas.

Apart from this, more than 4,000 Electricity Board workers, 2,000 medical personnel and thousands of conservancy workers were involved in the relief works day and night. In the rain-affected four districts, 740 boats were pressed into service for rescuing people. In this manner, more than 26,000 people were shifted to safer places.

Separate staff were appointed to provide food to the people in the affected areas. Large kitchens were set up and quality food articles were prepared. In Chennai District alone, till December 8, 47 lakh food packets were prepared to be served three times a day to the affected people. Totally, in Chennai, Chengalpattu Kancheepuram and Thiruvallur Districts, 51 lakh food packets have been distributed so far.

Apart from this, the required food, drinking water and milk was brought from various districts, through the respective District Collectors and was distributed. The following are the details:

S.No	Provided Items	Details
1.	Milk Powder	58,222 kg
2.	Drinking water	9,67,000 bottles
3.	Bread	2,65,000 loaves
4.	Biscuits	10,38,175packets

As the rain water started receding in the flood-affected areas, more than 25,000 conservancy workers were involved in cleaning work, along with the help of Disaster retrieval group workers. Medical camps were conducted wherever necessary.

Even as the retrieval and restoration works were in progress, the Hon'ble Chief Minister conducted an advisory meeting at the Secretariat on December 9 to decide on the relief amount to be paid to the people affected by the rains and floods.

In this meeting, Hon'ble Ministers, the Chief Secretary and higher Department officials participated. Damages due to rain and flood, and the relief amount to be paid to the affected people were discussed at the meeting.

- ❖ After the meeting, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, directed sanction of Rs.6,000 in cash to the families whose livelihood had been affected by the cyclone and floods. The relief amount will be paid through the ration shops in the respective areas.
- ❖ Apart from this, the compensation amount paid to the family of those who lost their lives will be increased to Rs.5 lakh from Rs. 4 lakh.
- ❖ Relief amount for hut dwellers whose huts are damaged will be increased from Rs. 5,000 to Rs.8,000.
- ❖ Compensation for standing paddy crops in irrigated areas affected 33 per cent or more will be increased to Rs. 17,000 per hectare as against the earlier announcement of Rs. 13,500 per hectare.
- ❖ Compensation for perennial crops and trees affected by 33 per cent or more will be increased from Rs.18,000 per hectare to Rs. 22,500 per hectare.
- ❖ Compensation for rain-fed crops affected 33 per cent or more will be increased to Rs. 8,500 from Rs. 7,410 per hectare.
- ❖ Relief to those who lost their cows, bulls and cattle will be given a compensation of Rs. 37,500 per head of cattle as against Rs. 30,000 announced earlier. Owners of goats and rams will be given Rs. 4,000 per head of cattle as against Rs. 3,000 announced earlier.
- ❖ For the fully damaged boats (including fishnets) the compensation will be increased from Rs.32,000 to Rs. 50,000. Relief to the partly damaged catamarans, from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 15,000. For fully damaged Vallam boats, the compensation had been increased to Rs. one lakh from Rs.75,000, for fully damaged mechanized boats the maximum relief has been increased from Rs.5 lakh to Rs.7.50 lakh and for the damaged fishnets from Rs. 10,000 to Rs. 15,000.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister announced these increased relief amounts after the meeting.

Hon’ble Chief Minister unveils statue of ‘the guardian of social justice’ V.P.Singh

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin, at the Presidency College complex in Chennai on 27.11. 2023, on behalf of the Information and Public Relations Department, unveiled a life-size statue of the former Prime Minister and Guardian of Social Justice, Thiru. V.P.Singh, set up at a cost of Rs. 52.20 lakh, in the presence of the former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister, Thiru. Akhilesh Yadhav, Tmt. Sita Kumari, wife of V.P.Singh, and Thiru. Ajaya Singh, his son.

Various memorials, statues, memorial pillars are constructed and properly maintained in different parts of the State on behalf of the Information and Public Relations Department, to celebrate and honour the Philanthropists, scholars who worked tirelessly for the development of Tamil language and brought pride to Tamil Nadu, Poets, Musical geniuses, Martyrs who nurtured the feelings of social justice and liberation, Geniuses and Scholars who are noble witnesses to the history of

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** unveiled a life-size statue of the former Prime Minister and the Guardian of Social Justice **Thiru.V.P.Singh** - 27.11.2023.

Tamil Nadu and their contribution to Tamil society.

Thiru. Vishwanath Pratap Singh was born as the son of the great Jamindar Raja Daya Bhagavathi Pratap Singh. He was involved in the freedom movement during his college days. He donated his lands for the Bhoodan movement.

In the year 1969, he successfully contested the Uttar Pradesh Legislative Assembly election. He served as the Chief Minister of the State, then as the Union Minister of Commerce, Minister for External Affairs, Finance Minister and the Defence Minister. In 1989, he formed the National Front and became the Prime Minister of the country.

When the Constitution of the country was framed, reservation was provided to the Scheduled Classes and Scheduled Tribes in the jobs of the Union Government. But no reservation was provided for the Backward Class people. To provide reservation for the Backward Class, the Second Backward Class Commission, under the chairmanship of B.P.Mandal, was formed. The Mandal Commission recommended that the socially and educationally backward community can be provided 27 per cent reservation in Government jobs. The Commission's recommendation for reservation in jobs for the Backward Class communities was implemented by the former Prime Minister, Thiru.V.P.Singh.

During his 11 month tenure as the Prime Minister of the country, he implemented 27 per cent reservation for the Backward Class people, Right to Information Act, initiation of National Rural Employment Scheme, employment as Constitutional Guarantee, Poll reforms, Inter-State Councils, National Defence Council, 3 committees to settle the grievances of farmers, habitats for Delhi hut dwellers and mandatory printing of MRP in retail sales.

Thiru.V.P.Singh was instrumental in setting up Cauvery Water Disputes Tribunal for Cauvery water, which is the lifeline for the people of Tamil Nadu. He named the domestic terminal of Chennai Airport after the former Chief Minister Kamarajar and international terminal after Perarignar Anna. Though V.P.Singh was born in an upper class community, his thinking was always about the Backward Class people. He never compromised on his principles for any posts.

To commemorate this great leader and in a way to thank him, on behalf of the Tamil community, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly under Rule 110 announced on 20.04.2023, that a life-size statue of the late leader V.P.Singh would be installed.

As per the announcement, the Hon'ble Chief Minister unveiled the statue of the former Prime Minister and Social Justice champion, Thiru. V.P. Singh, set up at a cost of Rs.52.20 lakh, in the presence of former Uttar Pradesh Chief Minister Thiru. Akhilesh Yadhav, Tmt. Sita Kumari, wife of V.P.Singh, and Thiru. Ajaya Singh, his son.

Speech delivered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu after unveiling the life-size statue of V.P.Singh

My warm welcome to all of you.

I am really happy and filled with joy for having got an opportunity to unveil the statue of V.P.Singh. The statue has been set up on the

lawns of the 150-year-old Presidency College and on Beach Road, where Dr.Kalaignar is in everlasting repose contemplating the days when V.P.Singh implemented the recommendations of the Mandal Commission's report. On that occasion, a few 'dominant forces' opposed the move and indulged in violent agitations. At that time, under the chairmanship of Dr.Kalaignar, at the same Kalaivanar Arangam, a poetry symposium which witnessed Dr.Kalaignar's fiery lines, was held.

I would like to refer to some of the words of his poem on that occasion. 'This is a victory celebration for the successful implementation of the Mandal Commission's recommendation by the Union Government. It is a thanks giving victory celebration to the humanist V.P.Singh. If all people are equal in the creation of God, did he fill the heads of the upper castes with gold and the heads of other castes with mud and lime? If anybody asks for one's thumb or head as an offering for learning, today such a person will face a dire end,' he had written.

Former Chief Minister and present Leader of Opposition, My dear brother and the future Chief Minister, Thiru. Akhilesh Yadav has come here for the statue inauguration function. He is the son of Mulayam Singh who was nurtured by Dr.Ram Manohar Lohia, the most favourite leader of V.P.Singh.

If Uttar Pradesh is the maternal home for V.P.Singh, then Tamil Nadu is his paternal home. His speeches were never complete without the

mention of the name of Periyar. His statue has been set up in Periyar's land of social justice.

Youth brigade in Chennai

I have met V.P.Singh twice. The first meeting was in 1988, during the inauguration of the National Front in Chennai. On that occasion, on behalf of the youth brigade, I led a massive rally in which more than 2 lakh youths participated. A dais was set up near the Government Arts College on Anna Salai, now known as Quaid-e-Millath College from where V.P.Singh witnessed the rally with wonder for nearly 3 hours. I did not get an opportunity to talk to him on the occasion. The next meeting was when he was the Prime Minister of the country. I was one among the MLAs delegation set up by the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly that met V.P.Singh. At that time, I was introduced to him. V.P.Singh at that time said with a smile, "How can I forget him, it is he who led the youth brigade in Chennai" and congratulated me on the occasion.

I have not been able to forget his good wishes throughout my life. Today, as Chief Minister I unveiled his statue. What greater honour can there be than this? On behalf of all of you, I welcome his wife Sita Kumari and his son Ajaya Singh and thank them for accepting my invitation and participating in the function. I do not want to differentiate you as V.P.Singh's family. If you are V.P.Singh's family then who are we? We also belong to V.P.Singh's family.

We all belong to the family of social justice spread throughout the country. It does not mean that his reputation has grown by the installation of his statue. On the other hand, we are only dedicating our respects to him.

V.P.Singh opened the doors of Social Justice to the people who had been oppressed for so many years. He was least bothered about the Prime Minister's post but was firm in implementing reservation for the Backward Class people. This Dravidian Model Government considers it its duty to install this statue for him.

Formation of National Front

The Dravidian Model Government is functioning in the State without budging an inch from its duties of Social Justice.

Everyone living in India should know about V.P.Singh and his life of sacrifice. The youth should be repeatedly told about V.P.Singh. That is the reason we have installed his statue in the premises of Presidency College.

Though born in a family of a rich Zamindar and used to luxury, his mind did not accept that life. Even during his college days, he joined the Gandhian movement and donated his lands for Vinoba Bhave's Bhoodan Movement.

In the year 1969, he successfully contested the Assembly elections in Uttar Pradesh, and became the Chief Minister of the State, then the Union Minister of Commerce, Finance Minister and the Defence Minister. He formed the National Front and became the Prime Minister of the country in 1989. Though his tenure was very short, just 11 months, his achievements were phenomenal. When the Constitution was framed in the country, no reservation was provided to the Backward Class people in proportion to their population. For making

such reservations, the Second Backward Class Commission was set up under the chairmanship of Mandal.

Guardian of Social Justice

The recommendation of the Mandal Commission that socially and educationally poor Backward Class People should be provided 27 per cent reservation was implemented by the Guardian of Social Justice, V.P.Singh.

V.P.Singh did not belong to the Backward Class by birth; he was not born in a poor family. But he made it possible to provide reservation for the poor, downtrodden and oppressed Backward Class people. In Parliament at that time, he mentioned the names of Thanthai Periyar, Dr.Ambedkar and Ram Manohar Lohia. He separately registered his thanks to Thanthai Periyar in Parliament.

During his 11-month tenure, the measures he brought forward included, 27 per cent reservation for the Backward Class, initiation for Right to Information Act and for the National Rural Employment Guarantee, making right to employment a Constitutional guarantee, preliminary steps for LokPal Act, election reforms, Bharat Ratna Award for Dr.Ambedkar and his portrait in the Central Hall of Parliament, Inter-State Council, 3 committees for settling the disputes of farmers, habitat for the slum dwellers of Delhi, making MRP slips compulsory in retail sales and the Consumers Protection. The list goes on.

Like these, V.P.Singh created many records. Thanks to the efforts of V.P.Singh, today the backward class people have moved a step ahead. But we have to climb up several steps. Even today, we are not able to get our rightful share. Reservation for OBC came into being in educational institutions only after 2006.

No reservation still exists

No reservation for the post of Joint Director in University Grants Commission. It is in the general category; 85 out of 89 posts of Department Secretaries in the Union Government belong to forward community; only one belongs to tribal community and only 3 belong to OBCs; In the Additional Secretaries post, 82 out of 93 belong to the forward community, one belongs to Scheduled Community and 3 belong to Tribal community. No one is from OBC. In the post of Joint Secretaries, only 19 out of 275 belong to OBC. In the Assam, Uttar Pradesh, Chhattisgarh and Jharkhand Central Law Universities, there is no reservation in the admission of students till this year. Out of 45 central universities, only 4 per cent of Professors belong to OBCs. Same state of affairs prevails in many departments.

What is the position of Social Justice in courts? From the year 2018 to 2023, Out of 604 Judges, only 72 belonging to OBCs have been appointed as High Court Judges. 458 judges belong to general communities.

Legal measures

Still reservation has not been implemented in the appointment of Hon'ble Supreme Court and Hon'ble High Court Judges. Even in the promotion within the departments, reservation has not been implemented. We have to work hard to change this situation. That will be the

real thanks giving to those like V.P.Singh. The DMK Government will never tire in its efforts towards achieving that goal. Our various activities are the legal steps we have taken since taking over the Government.

It is only the DMK which got the reservation for the OBCs throughout India in the admission of students in medical and dental colleges on 29.07.2021 through Hon'ble Supreme Court order. Not only that. We have formed a committee to monitor social justice in the State.

Self respect movement of Periyar

The birth anniversary of Thanthai Periyar is observed as Social Justice Day and Dr.Ambedkar's birth anniversary as Equality Day. We have been engaged in a legal and ethical crusade to abolish the NEET examination, which is an impediment to Social Justice. V.P.Singh considered Tamil Nadu as a State where his blood relatives live. He considered Thanthai Periyar as a leader dearer than his life.

For a man, humiliation is much more cruel than death. The medicine for removing that humiliation is Thanthai Periyar's self- respect movement, said V.P.Singh. He considered Dr. Kalaignar more than his brother. Kalaignar was the only man who never changed even if time changed, said V.P.Singh. When even my own Chief Ministers deserted me at the time of crisis, it was Dr.Kalaignar, who stood with me, he said.

I would like to give one instance for the friendship between Kalaignar and V.P.Singh. V.P.Singh, who was then the Prime Minister, was on his way to the Marina Beach for a meeting, along with Dr.Kalaignar. At that time V.P.Singh wanted to visit Dr.Kalaignar's house. But the Secretary of V. P.Singh prevented him from going to Dr.Kalaignar's house saying that his scheduled stops were only Marina Beach and the Governor's bungalow. But V.P.Singh stoutly denied his directive and proceeded to Kalaignar's house. Only after that did he attend the public meeting at Marina beach.

Anna's name for Chennai International Airport

I will give yet another example of the affection and respect of V.P.Singh for Dr.Kalaignar. At the public meeting on the beach, Dr.Kalaignar appealed to V.P.Singh to name the Chennai International Terminal after Perarignar Anna and the Domestic Terminal after Perunthalaivar Kamarajar. In those days there were no cell phones. There was only one private room and from there you could make the lightning call. You could talk only from that line. V.P.Singh got down from the dais and made a lightning call to the officer concerned and informed him of the demand. Today, both those terminals bear the name of great leaders.

'Kalaignar's view is my view'

Elder brother Durai Murugan who is sitting here knows about the Cauvery water problem. He is deeply involved in the matter. In the lifeline issue of Cauvery, V.P.Singh conceded the demand of Dr.Kalaignar and formed the Cauvery Water Tribunal.

Similarly, on the Sri Lanka issue also, he showed much interest. He convened a meeting of all the national leaders and the Chief Ministers

in his house in 1990. Nine Chief Ministers, 7 Union Ministers and 5 all-India leaders participated in the meeting. After inviting all of them, he asked Kalaignar to address the meeting. After Kalaignar's speech, V.P.Singh said that the views expressed by Kalaignar were his views. There is no other example than this to show how much faith V.P.Singh had in the Tamil race. I would like to mention one more incident.

National Integration Council

Dr. Kalaignar asked why the National Integration Council meeting should be held only in Delhi. Why not in the States? Immediately, V.P.Singh asked whether Tamil Nadu was ready to host the meeting to which Kalaignar readily agreed. It is history that for the first time that the National Integration Council meeting was held in Chennai. V.P.Singh always used to tell Kalaignar that you need not come to Delhi to place your demands. It is enough if you make the demand from Chennai itself. When I think about those pleasant days, my heart is full of happiness.

Guardian of social justice

The same period should return. We should make co-ordinated efforts towards that. V.P.Singh participated in the Delhi people's agitation for homes despite his failing health. According to him there is no last date in his political diary. He was firm in his principles till his death. Due to ill-health, he died on November 27, 2008. His death is a great loss to the country. The Government of Tamil Nadu takes pride in installing his statue. The path we must tread for Social justice is very long.

Social Justice is not an issue confined to one State. It is an issue for the entire country. Each State may differ in the caste equation. But the issue is the same: social neglect. Wherever there is such neglect, untouchability and slavery, the only solution is Social justice. I would like to complete my speech by stressing that if Social Justice is to survive, we have to make certain important decisions.

Everlasting flame of social justice

While taking the census of OBCs, the Union Government should take caste-wise census also; the reservation for the OBCs should be given fully. Reservation for SC and ST should be properly given too. This applies to the Minorities also. This should be monitored and ensured at the all-India level by all-party MPs. For this, all political parties which are interested in Social justice should put up a united fight in the interest of the people.

On the occasion of the unveiling the statue of the Guardian of Social Justice, V.P.Singh, let us all take a vow that the political action plan for the uplift of the Backward Class, SCs and STs, Minorities and people on the margins of society should be converted into Government action plan.

V.P.Singh may not be alive today. But the Social Justice flame lit by him will never be extinguished. Many may forget him, but Tamil Nadu will never forget him. The Dravidian Model Government will never forget him. With these words, I conclude my speech.

Hon'ble Chief Minister unveils statue of 'Dravida Peroli' Iyothee Thassa Pandithar Manimandapam opened at Gandhi Mandapam

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M. K. Stalin** declared open the statue and Manimandapam of Dravidian Peroli Iyothee Thassa Pandithar at the Gandhi Mandapam in Guindy on 01.12.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, on behalf of the Information and Public Relations Department, declared open a 'Manimandapam' and the statue of 'Dravida Peroli' Iyothee Thassa Pandithar, set up at a cost of Rs.2.49 crore, at the Gandhi Mandapam Complex in Guindy on 01.12.2023.

'Dravida Peroli' Iyothee Thassa Pandithar was born on May 20, 1845 to Thiru. Kandasami and Tmt. Adhi Lakshmi. His original name is Kathavarayan. He learnt Tamil and Sanskrit as well as Siddha medicine from 'Iyothee Thassa Kaviraja Pandithar'. He changed his name to Iyothee Thass due to his attachment to his teacher. He excelled as a Siddha doctor.

Iyothee Thassar cured the Tamil scholar Thiru.Vi.Ka. when the latter had been afflicted by an ailment in his younger days. This has been mentioned by Thiru.Vi.Ka himself in his book – Vaazhkai Kurippukal. Though he was a very good Siddha medicine practitioner he rose against caste oppression that prevailed in society at that time and became a crusader against caste oppression.

Iyothee Thassar had special mastery over several languages like Tamil, Sanskrit, Pali and English and was deeply conversant with several subjects like literature, grammar, mathematics, medicine and Buddhist philosophy. His deep knowledge of these subjects laid the foundation for his innovative thought.

Taking a vow to uplift the Adi Dravidar community, he started 'Advaithanandha Sabha' in 1870. In the 1881 Census, he urged the then British Government to register the Scheduled Caste people like Panchamars and Parayars as Adi Tamilar. In 1890, he started the Dravida Mahajana Sabha. Its first conference was held on 01.12.1891 at the Nilgiris. The conference adopted 10 resolutions and appealed to the then British Government to implement them. At that time, he was supported by people like 'Sindhanai Sirpi' M.Singaravelar and Prof. Lakshmi Narasu Naidu.

The main hurdle for development of India is the caste and community said Iyothee Thassar and to remove the caste differences and create feelings of equality, Iyothee Thassar, along with Rev. John Rathinam, started the weekly magazine 'Dravida Pandiyan' in 1885. Then in 1907 he started the newspaper 'Oru Paisa Tamilan'. Between 19.06.1907 and 19.08.1908, 62 issues of this paper came out. The four-page newspaper was released on every Wednesday. As the printer refused to print the issue on 20.08.1908, the paper was printed in another press and was released on 02.09.1908 in the name Tamilan.

The subject matter of the 62 issues of 'Oru Paisa' Tamilan was politics, social reform, news and letters. Researchers of today are of the opinion, that the serialized articles in these issues would definitely excel the present day doctorate theses. He had presented valid evidence from literature, grammar, Tamil, Pali and Sanskrit to eradicate hatred on the basis of caste and religion.

His thoughts created an awareness and renaissance in Tamil Society. After writing many books and articles, Iyothee Thassar passed away in 1914.

Thanthai Periyar used to say that Iyothee Thassar was the inspiration for his self respect movement and revolutionary opinions.

Tamil Thendral Thiru.Vi.Ka in his biography has said that he got rid of his religious bigotry

because of Iyothee Thassar. Muthamizharignar Kalaignar released the commemorative stamp in the name of Iyothee Thassar on 21.10.2006 to add further glory to Iyothee Thassar.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M. K. Stalin, in his speech on 03.09.2021 announced in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly under Rule 110 that a memorial would be set up in memory of the 175th anniversary of Iyothee Thassar who lived from 1845 to 1914 in honour of his contributions to social justice and his intellectual power.

In continuation of his announcement, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin declared open a memorial with a library and a statue, all constructed at a cost of Rs. 2.49 crore on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, for Dravida Peroli Iyothee Thassa Pandithar, who transformed the two words "Tamizhan" and "Dravidan" and gave them symbolic significance in the political field.

Speech delivered by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M. K. Stalin at the event:

Our Dravidian model Government is honouring Pandit Iyothee Thassar, who was the great luminary of Tamil Nadu's intellectual movement, by opening a Manimandapam for him. This is the biggest pride for the Government.

I announced in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 03.09.2021 that a Manimandapam with statue would be erected in Chennai in honour of the great personality, Iyothee Thassa Pandithar, who developed the tradition of Tamil thought.

The Manimandapam with the statue of Iyothee Thassa Pandithar in the Gandhi Mandapam Complex in Chennai, has been set up as a 'House of Enlightenment' with a magnificent appearance.

I am happy that I got the opportunity to inaugurate this Manimandapam for the great

man who was the luminosity of the intellectual world.

It was Iyothee Thassa Pandithar who transformed the two words Thamizhan and Dravidian and gave them symbolic significance in Tamil Nadu politics. Tamil or Dravidian is not just a language but a cultural practice, according to Iyothee Thassa Pandithar.

In 1881 it was Iyothee Thassar who asked the Tamils to enter their identity as, 'Poorva Thamizhar' in the census.

He started the organization 'Dravida Mahajana Sabha' in 1891.

In the year 1907, he started a magazine called 'Oru Paisa Thamizhan' and continued to run it as 'Thamizhan'.

It was Iyothee Thassar who wrote, spoke and fought till the end that the oppressed people should forget all their differences and unite as Tamils and casteless Dravidians.

A writer, explorer, historian, anthropological thinker, publisher, journalist, doctor, orator, linguist, multilingual scholar, theoretician, great activist, tireless fighter, Iyothee Thassar spread enlightenment throughout his life. The Tamil Intellectual Movement has been functioning from the knowledge base established by him in the last 150 years.

"Iyothee Thassar is the forerunner of my propaganda for rationalism and social reform," said Thanthai Periyar. His magazines and books had a worldwide readership.

Iyothee Thassar held that "caste and religion are hindrances to the progress of India" and said, "Whoever sees people as human beings is a human being." His books spread enlightenment even today.

This Mani Mandapam has been erected to commemorate the 175th anniversary of Iyothee Thassar, who lived from 1845 to 1914 and to pay homage to his knowledge.

Our Dravidian Model Government has also announced that the 'Iyothee Thassa Pandithar Habitation Development Project' will be implemented at a cost of Rs.1,000 crore in the next five years to improve Adi Dravidar settlements.

The thoughts of Iyothee Thassa Pandithar who described Mahan Buddha as a light without night and day, will always shed light for Tamil society.

Hon'ble Chief Minister opens dental college, hospital in Pudukkottai District worth Rs. 67.83 crore

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, at the Secretariat on 15.11.2023, on behalf of the Health and Family Welfare Department, declared open the third Government Dental College in the State and the Hospital, built at a cost of Rs 67.83 crore in Pudukkottai, and buildings for the Public Health Department, constructed at a cost of Rs. 8.89 crore in the district, through video conferencing.

To provide high class medical facilities to the people of Tamil Nadu, the Government has been opening new hospitals, primary health centres, improving the infrastructure and installing new machinery at Government hospitals, implementing 'Makkalai Thedi Maruthuvam' Scheme to provide health for all, 'Innuyir Kappom – Nammai Kakkum – 48' Scheme to prevent road accident deaths, 8-km welfare walking practice and many other health-oriented schemes, through the Health and Family Welfare Department.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** declared open the Government Dental College and Hospital on 15.11.2023

The Third Government Dental College in the State and Hospital was declared open at Pudukkottai

After 70 years in Pudukkottai, as a historic step, the Hon'ble Chief Minister declared open the third Dental College in the State and the Dental Hospital, constructed at a cost of Rs. 67.83 crore.

From the academic year 2023-2024, the College was permitted to admit 50 students per year. This Government Dental College and Dental hospital, constructed on a 10.14 acre site, have been provided with hostels, teachers and Dean quarters. In addition, modern equipment worth Rs. 5.10 crore, has been provided to the college and the hospital by the Government of Tamil Nadu. 148 posts, for administrative, teaching faculty and non-education have been sanctioned.

This Pudukkottai Government College and the Dental Hospital have been constructed with the best infrastructure in the country. The Dental Hospital will cater to the medical needs of the poor and downtrodden people in the central part of the State.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister on the occasion also declared open 27 new buildings, constructed on behalf of the Public Health Department.

Outpatient wards at the Primary Health Centres in Keezhanilai Pudupatti, Rasanaickenpatti, Palandampatti; new building Neerpalani sub-health centre, nurses quarters at the Malaikudipatti PHC, building for Parambur sub-health centre, buildings for sub-health centres of Melamuthukadu and Puliyur, outpatient ward for Naakudi PHC, buildings for Embavayal sub-health centre, building for Kottaipattinam sub-health centre, building for Manamelkudi sub-health centre, for Mumpalai sub-health centre, for Vichoor sub-health centre, P.R.Pattinam sub-health centre, for Nilaiyur sub-health Centre, for Kothamangalam East sub-health centre, for Kummankulam sub-health Centre, Kuppakudi sub-health Centre, for L.N.Puram sub-health Centre, for Viralipatti sub-health centre, and for Venkidakulam sub-health Centre, nurses quarters for Muthupattinam sub-health Centre and buildings for Kattumavadi Sub-health Centre and Nelveli sub-health centres and Azhiyanilai sub-health centre, and Karukakurichi sub-health centre. All these buildings and health centres, located in the Pudukkottai and Aranthangi Health Districts, totally worth Rs. 8.89 crore were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

Statue and memorial for Cruz Fernandez for services rendered to Thoothukudi municipality

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K. Stalin unveiled a statue of Rao Bahadur Cruz Fernandez - 15.11.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, on the occasion of the birth anniversary of Rao Bahadur Cruz Fernandez, regarded as the father of Thoothukudi, declared open a statue of Rao Bahadur Cruz Fernandez, constructed at a cost of Rs. 77.87 lakh in the Thoothukudi Corporation Park premises, from the Secretariat through video conferencing on 15.11.2023.

Various memorials, statues, memorial pillars are constructed and properly maintained in different parts of the State on behalf of the Information and Public relations Department, to celebrate and honour the Philanthropists, scholars who worked tirelessly for the development of Tamil language and brought pride to Tamil Nadu, Poets, Musical geniuses, Martyrs who nurtured the feelings of social justice and liberation, Geniuses and Scholars who are noble witnesses to the history of Tamil Nadu and their contribution to Tamil society.

Rao Bahadur Cruz Fernandez dedicated his life for the welfare of the people of Thoothukudi. For nearly 30 years, he was a member of the Municipality and its chairman for 5 times. During his tenure as Chairman, he implemented many welfare schemes, including education for the lower strata of people, upgradation of huts, eradication of untouchability, co-operative bank loan assistance, health centres, Saturday shandies, markets and common burial

ground. When Thoothukudi town was reeling under severe drinking water shortage in 1927, he implemented the Nellai Thamirabarani drinking water scheme, by bringing water from Thamirabarani river through pipes. This scheme was highly appreciated by the people.

To commemorate the selfless services of Cruz Fernandez, his birth anniversary on November 15 is celebrated as a Government function. The DMK's election manifesto promised that a memorial with a statue of Fernandez would be set up in Thoothukudi. To fulfill the election promise, it was announced on 13.11.2021 that in the Corporation complex of Thoothukudi, a memorial would be set up along with his statue. As per the announcement, on the occasion of Fernandez's birth anniversary, a statue, at a cost of Rs. 77.87 lakh, was declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu through video conferencing.

87th Death anniversary of Kappalottiya Thamizhan V.O. Chidambaranar

News in Picture

On the occasion of the 87th death anniversary of V.O.Chidambaranar, on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, the Hon'ble Minister for Tamil Development, Information and Publicity Thiru.M.P.Saminathan, Mayor of Greater Chennai Corporation Tmt. R. Priya, Deputy Mayor Thiru. M. Maheshkumar and other high officials paid floral tributes to the decorated portrait of V.O.C. near his statue at Gandhi Mandapam, Guindy, Chennai on 18.11.2023.

Hon'ble Chief Minister moves special resolution to re-adopt all 10 Bills denied assent by the Hon'ble Governor

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 18.11.2023, moving a special resolution to reconsider the bills returned by the Hon'ble Governor without giving assent.

Hon'ble Speaker Sir!

Even if the tree prefers to rest, the wind does not allow it to do so, said the revolutionary Mao Zedong. Though I was forced to rest at home for a few days due to fever and throat pain, the welfare of the people of the State, Mother Tamil Nadu's welfare and the welfare of the Legislative Assembly which has seen more than 100 years, are much more important. With such determination of mind, I am standing before you. If there is any force that prevents us, who were elected by crores of people, this Assembly, the power centre, as provided by the Indian Constitution, that situation would lead the Indian Democracy to dangerous straits. With that fear, I stand before you.

Here Saint Thiruvalluvar lays down the law like none other. Even 2000 years ago he declared that the King who guards his realm and rules justly will be esteemed like a God by his subjects (Kural 388)

Our leader Dr.Kalaignar in his commentary wrote that the King who administers his kingdom in a just manner will be looked upon by the people as their leader. It was Kalaignar who made us what we are. All of us tread the path that he has laid out for us in ruling this State.

If there are impediments in doing so, as Poet Bharathidasan said, we will prove that we have the strength to overcome them.

The Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly was the first Assembly in the country in shaping the greatness of democracy.

This Assembly has seen several parties, many Chief Ministers, hundreds of legislators, and has been protecting democracy. It is not an exaggeration to claim that by implementing many social welfare schemes on the basis of social justice, this State is a frontline state for the Indian Union.

Excellent welfare schemes for the people

This Assembly was formed in 1920 after the Dyarchy system. This Assembly was the role model for the functioning of Assemblies and formed the guidelines for their conduct. Members from the English Parliament witnessed the functioning of this Assembly as visitors. This Assembly has such glorious traditions! In the last 100 years, we have implemented many pathbreaking welfare schemes for the people making Tamil Nadu the best among all the States in the country.

The present development of the State is due to laws and schemes brought forward by our leaders. We are providing the Dravidian Model Government in the State, by following the policies and principles of Thanthai Periyar, Annal Ambedkar, Perunthalaivar Kamarajar, Perarignar Anna and Muthamizharignar Kalaignar.

On the basis of social justice, self respect, inclusive growth, socialism, Rights of women, communal harmony and protecting biodiversity, we have implemented countless welfare schemes for the people through this Legislative Assembly, all of which have been praised by all sections of people.

Schemes that serve as models for the entire country

The schemes are meant for the prosperity of Tamil Nadu but are models for the entire country. Members of the House know well that there were some disruptions, I won't say to spoil this environment, but to disrupt it.

I would like to remind the members, that I had said in the same Assembly last year, that if there had not been a financial stringency and impediments created by the Union Government, we would have implemented more welfare schemes.

The special convening of the Assembly today was due to the interruptions mentioned in my earlier speech. Normally, the Assembly is convened specially for important events or to adopt some important resolutions.

Beacon of Democracy

Similarly, the Assembly has been specially convened urgently today for an urgent matter in connection with the welfare of the people of the State and the need to establish democracy, and to protect the Constitution.

The Hon'ble Governor has not given his assent to some of the Bills adopted by the House, which serves as the beacon of democracy.

The Hon'ble Governor returned some of the bills with the comment, 'I withhold assent', on 13.11.2023. The House will adopt the Bills again and send the same to the Hon'ble Governor for his assent. We have convened this special session of the Assembly only for that reason.

Measures against the people in democracy

As per the principles of democracy, the Hon'ble Governor is duty-bound to give assent to a Bill adopted by the Legislative Assembly. If the Governor wants any clarification, either legally or administratively, he can seek the same from the Government. The Government has to give the necessary clarification. In the same way, the Governor had sought some clarification and this was clarified through letters. In some cases, the Secretaries concerned and the Chief Secretary have explained personally.

On any account, his questions were not left unanswered. Under these circumstances, due to his personal likes and dislikes, he returned some of the Bills adopted by the Legislative Assembly. This is nothing but showing disrespect to the Legislative Assembly. It is 'undemocratic' on the part of the Hon'ble Governor for not giving assent to 10 Bills, including 12 Bills and some other files. It is illegal, against democracy, anti-people, and against one's conscience. To top it all, it is against the sovereignty of the Legislative Assembly.

The person who is the Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu should help in the growth of Tamil Nadu. He should prepare the way for the improvement of the State. He should try to get more finance from the Union Government, sufficient funds for construction of AIIMS; new railway projects for the State, he can be a bridge between the Union Government and the State Government. Instead of engaging in such constructive activities, he has been thinking every day on how to put spokes in the wheels of the State Government's schemes.

Opinions against social structure

Apart from that, he takes lessons every day to somebody or other. We have no objection to such classes. But he is always teaching wrong things. He is taking part in events. We have no objection to that. But in these events he advances perverse arguments.

It is unbecoming of a Governor to question or explain the policies of the Government openly in the public. He is not able to accept the Dravidian principles, equality, social justice, rationalism and self respect being followed in Tamil Nadu.

On public platforms, he speaks against Tamil culture, literature, and the social set up. He continues to air his views of this nature despite the criticism of his absurd views by many opposition leaders.

Unconstitutional ways

When one sees his reported statements, it is evident that the problem between him and the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly is not only on the Bills adopted by the Legislative Assembly but on the issue of social justice also. That is the reason why he has been creating impediments to the best of his ability.

We are trying to make him understand in all possible ways. Independent observers feel that the Hon'ble Governor has been indulging in such activities as he is not able to digest the development of Tamil Nadu. Much against the Constitution, the Hon'ble Governor has been adopting the collision course with the

Government. On behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, we wrote a letter to the Hon'ble President asking her to give proper advice to the Hon'ble Governor.

Forced to approach the Hon'ble Supreme Court

MPs belonging to Tamil Nadu met the Hon'ble President and insisted on these demands. I myself wrote letters to the Hon'ble Prime Minister in this connection. As all these attempts have failed to yield results, the Government of Tamil Nadu was forced to approach the Hon'ble Supreme Court. The Government of Tamil Nadu has filed a petition in the Hon'ble Supreme Court mentioning all the pending files, including Bills adopted by the Legislative Assembly. The comment about the functioning of the Hon'ble Governor made by the Hon'ble Supreme Court, after hearing the arguments of the Government of Tamil Nadu, was the first victory of this Government. At this juncture, the Hon'ble Governor hurriedly sent back 10 bills without giving his assent on 13.11.2023.

Reconsideration of Legislative Bills

The Indian Constitution has given absolute power to the Legislative Assembly elected by the people. As per the Article 200 of the Indian Constitution, the Legislative Assembly alone has primary powers to reconsider these bills and send the Bills again to the Hon'ble Governor

Based on that only, these 10 bills are again placed before the members of the House.

Right from the date of taking charge of the State, with the sole intention of people's welfare, the DMK Government has been implementing many pioneering schemes and thereby got a place in the hearts of people.

Those who are not able to digest this politically, are trying to stall the administration by doing politics through the high Constitutional post of Hon'ble Governor.

One who is bound to the people and to his conscience

Though the post of Hon'ble Governor has to be abolished, while it exists we have to make it conform to the principles of democracy.

In the non-BJP-ruled States, problems are created through Hon'ble Governors. After the Hon'ble Supreme Court gave a snubbing, the Hon'ble Governor is now playing a drama by urgently sending back some bills and giving assent to some bills.

He is doing what he knows. Let him. We always follow the rule of law. In keeping with Article 200 of the Constitution, I appeal to the members of the house to pass the 10 Bills which were returned without any reason by the Hon'ble Governor.

As per the words of Dr.Kalaignar, while proposing the following resolution, I would like to register the fact that we are answerable only to our conscience and to the people.

Special resolution by the Government

Two Bills which were reviewed and adopted by the 15th Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly and 8 Bills reviewed and adopted

by the 16th Legislative Assembly were duly sent to the Hon'ble Governor for his assent. These Bills were kept pending and returned on 13.11.2023 without any reason being adduced but with only the remark, 'I withhold assent'. It is believed that the Hon'ble Governor has returned the Bills without giving any reason. The House feels that it was not proper to return the Bills without any reason

Under the Article 200 of the Constitution, if the above Bills are adopted again in the Legislative Assembly, the Hon'ble Governor has to give assent.

Bill No: 2 of 2020: The Tamil Nadu Fisheries University (Amendment) Act, (Legislative Assembly Bill No 2/2020). Already in the 15th Legislative Assembly the Bill to amend the Tamil Nadu Fisheries University Act 2020 was introduced on 08.01.2020, taken for review and passed on 09.01.2020.

Bill No: 12 of 2020: The Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (Amendment) Act 2020, introduced in the House on 09.01.2020 , reviewed and passed.

Bill No: 24 of 2022: The Tamil Nadu Universities Laws (Amendment) Bill, 2022. In the 16th Legislative Assembly, the Bill to amend the Tamil Nadu Universities Law was introduced, reviewed and adopted on 25.04.2022.

Bill No: 29/2022: The Tamil Nadu Dr.Ambedkar Law Universities (Amendment) Bill, 2022, introduced on 05.05.2022, reviewed on 10.05.2022 and adopted by the Legislative Assembly.

Bill No: 39/2022: The Tamil Nadu Dr.M.G.R. Medical University Chennai (Amendment) Bill 2022. The bill was introduced in the Legislative Assembly on 09.05.2022, reviewed on 10.05.2022.

Bill No: 40/2022: The Tamil Nadu Agriculture University (Amendment) Bill-2022 The bill was introduced in the Legislative Assembly on 10.05.2022 .

Bill No: 48/2022: The Tamil Nadu Universities Act (Second Amendment) Bill-2022. Introduced in the Legislative Assembly on 18.10.2022, reviewed and adopted on 19.10.2022.

Bill No: 55/2022: The Tamil University (Second Amendment) Bill 2022. Introduced, reviewed and adopted by the Legislative Assembly on 19.10.2022.

Bill No: 15/2023: The Tamil Nadu Fisheries University (Amendment) Bill-2023 The Bill was introduced on 19.04.2023 and reviewed on 21.04.2023 and adopted on the same day.

Bill No: 18/2023; The Tamil Nadu Veterinary and Animal Sciences University (Amendment) Bill-2023. Introduced in the Legislative Assembly on 20.04.2023, reviewed on 21.04.2023 and passed the same day.

The House decided to review the above Bills as per the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly Rule No 143. I propose the adoption of the resolution by the House.

Hon’ble Chief Minister distributes pattas to 3,543 persons displaced by NLC land acquisition

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin** inaugurated the F-Line measurement facility through online service – 20.11.2023.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, at the Secretariat on 20.11.2023, on behalf of the Revenue and Disaster Management Department, handed over settlement pattas to 3,543 beneficiaries, whose lands were taken over by the Neyveli Lignite Corporation. As a token, the Hon’ble Chief Minister gave away pattas to 7 beneficiaries. The issue of lack of revenue records for their lands was settled after nearly 60 years with the grant of settlement records. On the same occasion, the Hon’ble Chief Minister declared open the Tahsildar offices for Thiruvattar, Killiyur and Ponneri taluks and a conference hall for Theni and inaugurated the F-Line measurement facility through online service.

The Revenue Department is the backbone of the administrative machinery and serves to meet the daily requirement of the

common people and the implementation of various socio-economic programmes. During natural disasters like rains, floods and cyclones, this Department also redresses grievances. The Government of Tamil Nadu has been implementing various schemes to fine tune the working of the department by setting up new offices with modern facilities, office quarters for the employees and launching new on-line services for the benefit of the public.

Land planning work for the alternative places given to the affected people due to, land acquisition by the Neyveli Lignite Corporation, solving the 60 year old demand and issuing pattas

Land owners whose lands had been acquired for the Neyveli Lignite Corporation in Virudhachalam Taluk in Cuddalore District, were given alternative sites and rehabilitated in Vijayamanagaram and Pudhukooraipettai Villages in 1959. In the villages, the settlement process had not been carried out. In this connection, the Revenue and the Disaster Management Department on 26.05.2022 issued a Government Order benefiting 3,000 families. Under the head of the Virudhachalam Revenue Divisional Officer, land revenue unit work was completed.

The affected people whose land had been acquired for the NLC, were given 1,371 pattas for 2,676 persons in Vijayamanagaram villages, 475 pattas for 867 persons in Pudhukooraipettai Village. Totally, 3,543 were benefited under the scheme. As a token, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over pattas to 7 beneficiaries.

Opening of Tahsildar offices and seminar hall:

Tahsildar office buildings in Killiyur in Thiruvattar in Kanniyakumari District, at a cost of Rs. 7.50 crore and in Ponneri in Thiruvallur District at a cost of Rs.3.75 crore and a conference hall in the District Collectorate complex in Theni District, at a cost of Rs. 3.60 crore. Totally Revenue Department buildings, costing Rs. 14.86 crore were declared open by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

Launching new facility of applying for F-Line measurement facility through online.

Land owners for measurement of

their lands so far have to go to the respective Taluk offices in person and apply. Now for the convenience of the land owners, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin launched the https://tamilnilam.tn.gov.in/citizen portal, which will enable them to apply for the measurement from their homes itself.

Through this new service, the land owners need not go to the respective taluk offices demanding measurement of their lands. Instead of paying measurement charges through banks, the land owners can pay the charges online. The date of measurement will be informed either through SMS or mobile phone. After the measurement, the applicant can get the signed document by downloading from the portal https://eservices.tn.gov.in/ .

Beneficiaries who got the pattas said:

Thiru Venkatachalapathi, who received the patta from the Hon'ble Chief Minister said, "We were living in Kooraipettai Village in Cuddalore District. Our land, house and plot were taken over by the NLC administration for excavating lignite. We were given alternate land at New Kooraipettai, about 60 years ago. As we were not given either patta or sitta for the land given by the NLC administration, we are not able to get co-operative bank loan for taking any construction activities in the land. Thanks to the initiative of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, urgent steps were taken for the issue of pattas for the land. For this, I thank the Hon'ble Chief Minister on behalf of our village and on my own behalf. I happily extend my heartfelt thanks and greetings to the Hon'ble Chief Minister''.

Another beneficiary Thiru. Balakrishnan: In the year 1957 my land was acquired by the NLC and I was settled in the Vijayamanagaram. We are unable to get any loan from the nationalized banks. Due to that we suffered a lot. We are doing agriculture by cultivating paddy, millet and sugarcane. After the Hon'ble Chief Minister came to power in Tamil Nadu, he gave us patta for our land. For this, we extend our sincere thanks to the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

Thiru.N.Sivakumar who received patta: In the year 1951, for the first mine excavation work, my land was taken over by the Neyveli Lignite Corporation. I was given land in Pudukooraipettai. We were not given patta for our land for the past 65 years. On behalf of the village, we submitted a memorandum for the issue of pattas. After the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu came to power in 2021, he favourably considered our demand and issued orders for giving us pattas. On behalf of the village we happily extend our thanks to the Hon'ble Chief Minister.

Another beneficiary, Thiru. Annadurai: The NLC Administration took over my lands in the year 1958 and gave land in Pudukooraipettai, as alternative site. Since we do not have patta for that land we placed a demand for the same to the Hon'ble Chief Minister. The Hon'ble Chief Minister favourably considered our demands and issued orders for giving pattas for the land. We are extremely thankful to the Hon'ble Chief Minister for his action.

News in Picture

103rd Birth anniversary of 'Uvamai Kavignar' Suradha

In connection with the 103rd birth anniversary of 'Uvamai Kavignar' Suradha on 23.11.2023, the Hon'ble Minister for Health and Family Welfare, Thiru.Ma. Subramanian, honoured the Poet, on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, by offering flower petals to a decorated portrait of the poet. Along with him Tmt. Tamizhachi Thangapandian Member of Parliament, Thiru.J.Karunanidhi and Thiru.A.M.V. Prabhakara Raja, MLAs, Thiru.M.Mahesh Kumar, Deputy Mayor, Thiru.D.Mohan I.A.S., Director of Information and Public Relations, Dr.N.Arul, Director of Tamil Development, and the family members of Poet were present.

Hon’ble Chief Minister inaugurates 4,272 flats at a cost of Rs.453.67 crore in 9 Districts

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K.Stalin** handed over allotment orders -20.11.2023

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin, on 20.11.2023, at the Secretariat, inaugurated 4,272 flats built in 13 scheme areas in 9 districts, at a cost of Rs.453.67 crore, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also issued work orders for construction of houses for 4,680 beneficiaries, at a total cost of Rs. 98.28 crore, at the rate of Rs. 2.10 lakh each and for 72 handloom weavers, at the rate of Rs. 4 lakh each at a total cost of Rs.2.88 crore, under the ‘Own house’ construction scheme. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also issued work orders for construction of houses and allotment orders for housing for 100 differently-abled persons, in connection with the Muthamizharignar Kalaignar Centenary celebrations.

The Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board was started in 1970 by Muthamizharignar Kalaignar to provide affordable housing to the poor urban families living in the State. Although slum development is the primary function of the Slum Clearance Board, housing alone is not enough to improve the living standards of urban poor families. They need to be provided with adequate urban facilities such as drinking water, sanitation, electricity, transport, education, medical facilities, solid waste management and public utilities. With this view, the Hon'ble Chief Minister, on 01.09.2021, renamed the Tamil Nadu Slum Clearance Board as the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board. The change in name has been made with the intention of not only replacing huts but also improving the livelihood and quality of life of the people living in the huts.

Declaring open new houses of the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board.

Under the Houses for all Scheme, in Chengalpattu District, under the Murugamangalam scheme area, 1,260 new flats, with ground floor and 2 floors, at a total cost of Rs.151.94 crore and under Semmancheri scheme area, 144 new flats with ground and 5 floors, at a cost of Rs.20.63 crore;

512 new flats with ground plus 3 floors, at a cost of Rs.50.78 crore in Rajakkur Project Area, Madurai District, 320 new flats with ground plus 3 floors in Athikulam Project Area, at a cost of Rs.30.43 crore;

420 new flats, with ground and 2 floors, at a cost of Rs.42.26 crore in Nambipatti scheme area, Dharmapuri District;

In Kanniyakumari District, 384 new flats, with ground and 3 floors, at a cost of Rs.36.54 crore, in Pudukulam scheme area, and 32 new flats in ground plus 3 floors, at a cost of Rs.3.45 crore in Esanthimangalam Scheme Area-II;

320 new flats, at a cost of Rs.31.27 crore, with ground, 4 floors at Jeba Garden Project Area, Tirunelveli District;

264 new flats, at a cost of Rs.24.35 crore with ground plus 2 floors at Kallakurichi District, Keeranur Project Area- I –

In Pudukkottai District, Annavasal Part-I Scheme Area, 192 new flats, at a cost of Rs.17.28 crore, with ground plus 2 floors and in Annavasal Part-II scheme – 216 new flats with ground plus 3 floors, at a cost of Rs.23.76 crore;

112 new flats, at a cost of Rs.11.22 crore, with ground plus 6 floors in North Porur Area-1 Project Area, Coimbatore District;

96 new flats, at a cost of Rs.9.76 crore, with ground, plus 3 floors in Panangattu Colony Part -II Project Area, Cuddalore District;

Totally, the Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurated 4,272 newly constructed flats, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Urban Habitat Development Board, at a cost of Rs.453.67 crore. As a token, the Hon'ble Chief Minister issued orders for 6 beneficiaries.

Since taking over the administration, the present Government has constructed 19,777 flats, built at a cost of Rs 2,037.08 crore for the homeless, poor and slum dwellers. Each flat in these new apartments has an area of about 400 sq.ft, a multi-purpose room, bedroom, kitchen and toilet facilities. Also, all the residential complexes are equipped with roads, drinking water facilities, sewage treatment, children's park and rain water harvesting structures. Residents Welfare Associations are being formed in all the project areas under the 'Nam Kudiyiruppu, Nam Poruppu' project.

Issuance of work orders for beneficiaries under Own houses scheme

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin also issued orders to 3 beneficiaries as a token of giving work orders worth Rs.98.28 crore totally, to build individual houses, each costing Rs.2.10 lakh for 4,680 beneficiaries living in various districts under the scheme for Beneficiaries building their own houses.

Issuance of work orders for construction of houses for urban handloom weavers

The Hon'ble Chief Minister has issued orders for increasing the subsidy to Rs.4 lakh for construction of houses by urban handloom weavers, with the State Government giving Rs.2.50 lakh and the Union Government the balance Rs.1.50 lakh. The Hon'ble Chief Minister gave work orders worth Rs.2.88 crore totally to 72 urban handloom weavers, and as a token he gave orders to 3 beneficiaries.

Issuance of allotment orders for residences to differently-abled persons on the occasion of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar centenary celebrations

The Hon'ble Chief Minister gave the orders to 3 differently-abled persons as a sign of allotment of houses for 100 differently-abled persons, on the occasion of the centenary celebrations of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar.

My Ideal

"We should create a situation in Tamil Nadu where no individual has a petition to give to the Government. That is my objective. All welfare programmes and services of the Government should reach all the people. We need to create an environment in which the people have the confidence that if a request is made to the Government, it will be fulfilled."

-- Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**

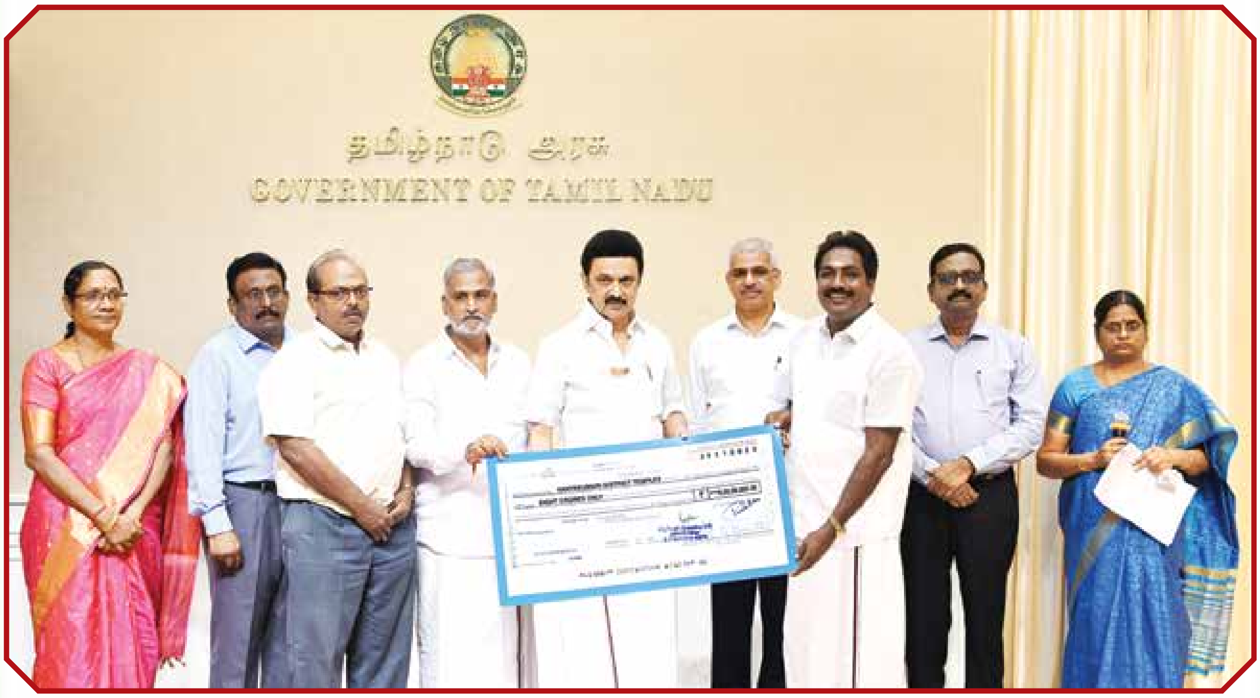
Let us know

New scheme kicks off: In your village, at your beck and call

Announcement of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu
Thiru. M.K. Stalin - 23.11.2023.

- Are the welfare schemes announced by the Government reaching the people properly? Are the services provided by various Government departments accessible to the people? ‘Chief Minister on the field’ is a scheme through which the Chief Minister goes directly to the field, engages in research, speeds up the Government machinery and conducts a review meeting for the field officers to give appropriate advice.
- This project is a realization of the dream of Perarignar Anna who said, "Go to the people, live with them, learn from them, love them and serve them".
- Public welfare programmes implemented for the people are planned with the focus on the welfare and progress of the people. The primary task of the Government machinery is to ensure that all the benefits of Government welfare schemes reach the people and to remove the obstacles to that aim.
- The Government machinery should seek and serve the people with duty, dignity and discipline. District Collectors act as a bridge between the people and the Government. The District Collector is the person from whom the people living in each village seek solutions for the development of their village and solutions to their problems with the Government. The District Collectors are seen as deserving of immense love, support and trust by the people, who come to the District Collectors every Monday and submit petitions. The majesty of the District Collector’s post does not ruffle the minds of the people; they are rather drawn to them.
- Through the programme 'Ungalai Thedi' 'Ungal Ooril,', the District Collector will spend a day every month at the taluk level, engage in field research, inspect the Government offices, listen to the grievances of the people and ensure that all welfare programmes and services of the Government reach the people without hindrance.
- This is the succeeding phase of the 'Chief Minister in the Field' scheme; It can also be said that it is Anna's dream programme – ‘Go to the people’.
- The Government machinery is coming to seek you, to listen to your grievances and solve them immediately. I myself and the Government machinery are coming to the field. We will listen carefully to your complaints; let's find a solution in the field; let's ease people's worries; and let's build a great Tamil Nadu.

Hon'ble Chief Minister hands over Rs.8 crore cheque for temples of Kanniyakumari District



The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, on 24.11.2023, at the Secretariat, on behalf of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department, handed over the increased subsidy amount for administrative and maintenance expenses of the temples of Kanniyakumari District from Rs. 6 crore to Rs.8 crore, to the temples by presenting a cheque for Rs. 8 crore to Thiru. G.Ramakrishnan, Chairman, Suchindram - Kanniyakumari District Temple Trust.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister also presented the education allowance for 400 students, who are the sons and daughters of priests working in 'Oru Kaala Pooja' temples for their higher education. As a token he handed over bank drafts to 8 students. The Hon'ble Chief Minister also handed over the increased incentive of Rs. 4,000 to full-time students and Rs. 2,000 to part-time students studying in the training schools, run by the temple administration. The incentive to 292 students was recently increased by the Government.

Rs. 8 crore grant for administrative expenses of temples in Kanniyakumari District

In the budget demand for the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department for the year 2023-2024, it was announced that Rs. 6 crore subsidy is being provided for administrative expenses of affiliated and unaffiliated temples

of Kanniyakumari District would be increased to Rs. 8 crore this year as the existing amount was inadequate.

For the administration and maintenance of 490 temples in Kanniyakumari District, Rs.3 crore was given as a Government grant till the financial year 2019-2020. The Hon'ble Chief Minister increased the grant to Rs.6 crore from 2021-2022 and gave it on 27.12.2021. Since the current amount is insufficient, the Government subsidy has been increased to Rs. 8 crore from this financial year.

Scholarships for education of sons/ daughters of priests of one-time Pooja Scheme temples

In the budget demand of the HR and CE Department, for the year 2023-2024, it was also announced that "a central fund will be established to provide education scholarships to 400 students for further studies of the children of priests working in the temples under the one-time Pooja scheme".

According to the announcement, the Hon'ble Chief Minister presented bank drafts to 8 students as a token of providing higher education assistance to 400 students for the higher education of the sons/daughters of the priests working in the temples.

A maximum of Rs.10,000 or the fee fixed by the college, whichever is less, will be given to 400 students annually through the School and College Education Development Central Fund to help the sons/daughters of priests working in the temples under the control of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department to further their education. This will benefit the priests' children studying arts, science, engineering, medicine, law and higher education in Government and private colleges.

Higher incentives to full-time/ part-time students studying in training schools run by temples

On the occasion of the centenary celebrations of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, who brought the historic pioneer project that people

belonging to all castes can become priests, the Hon'ble Minister for the HR and CE Department announced that the incentive given to the full-time/part-time students of training schools run by the temples would be increased. A Government Order in this connection was also issued subsequently.

Accordingly, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over a higher incentive of Rs. 4,000 and Rs.2,000 to 292 full time/part-time students, studying in training schools run by temples. As a token, he handed over the bank drafts to 8 students.

In view of the centenary of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, 15 coaching schools, namely Archagar, Odhuvar, Vedagamam, Thavil, Nadaswaram and Prabandha Vinnappa School, are being run by the temples. The incentive given to full-time students will be increased from Rs. 3,000 to Rs.4,000 and to part-time students from Rs.1,500 to Rs.2,000 from the respective temple funds. Through this, a total of 292 students will be benefited out of which 212 students will receive full-time training and 80 students will receive part-time training.

Our Aim

"Our aim is that every sector should grow, every section of people should develop, every industry should prosper, every district should prosper."

Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**

Hon’ble Chief Minister presides over marriages of two couples held in temple wedding hall

The Honble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K. Stalin,** conducted the marriages on behalf of the HR and CE Department - 24.11.2023.

The Hon’ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin, on 24.11.2023 presided over the marriage of two couples at Arulmigu Kapaleeswarar Karpagambal wedding hall, Mylapore, Chennai and presented ‘seervarisai’ gifts to them, to mark the conduct of 1,100 marriages on behalf of the temples of the Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments Department.

Conducting 1,100 marriages on behalf of the temples

In the budget demand of the HR and CE Department for the year 2022-2023, it was announced that 500 marriages would be conducted annually by temples in 20 Joint Commissioner zones with each JC conducting 25 marriages. The temples would bear the expenses for the marriages.

Accordingly, on 04.12.2022, at the Arulmigu Marundeeswarar temple wedding hall, Thiruvanmiyur, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu presided over a wedding ceremony and presented various ‘seervarisai’ items to 25 couples, on behalf of the temples under the Chennai Zone Joint Commissioner. After that, 500 marriages were conducted across the state on behalf of temples. Also, the permissible expenditure for temple marriages was increased from Rs. 20,000 to Rs. 50,000.

In the demand for the Department for the year 2023-2024, it was announced that the couples belonging to economically backward communities

would be given gifts worth Rs.50,000 along with 4 grams of gold Thaali. Last year, 500 marriages were conducted and this year, "100 more marriages will be conducted, at the rate of 30 marriages per zone and 600 marriages will be conducted on behalf of the temples".

Accordingly, as a first step, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin presided over the marriage of 34 couples at the Arulmigu Kapaleeswarar Karpagambal Wedding Hall, on 07.07.2023, and distributed the seervarisai items. Following this, marriages were conducted in Chennai under the leadership of the Hon'ble Minister for Water Resources and on behalf of temples in other districts.

Since this Government assumed charge, 500 marriages announced in the financial year 2022-2023 and 564 out of 600 marriages announced in the financial year 2023-2024, have been conducted, making a total of 1,064 marriages.

Today, 34 brides and grooms have been married in other districts on behalf of temples and 2 brides and grooms in Chennai, under the leadership of the Hon'ble Chief Minister. With these marriages, a total of 1,100 marriages have been completed.

Let us know

Loans worth Rs.876.84 crore given to 1,11,027 people during All India Co-operative Week

- Every year, All India Co-operative Week is held across the country from November 14 to 20. This year, as per the orders of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu, the theme was 'Role of Co-operative Organizations in achieving One Lakh Crore Dollar Economy and Sustainable Development Goals' in Tamil Nadu. The 70th All India Co-operative Week Festival - 2023, was held with distinction both at the state level and in all the districts from 14th to 20th November, with a different theme for each of the seven days.
- 118 Members Education Programme Camps, 26 Blood Donation Camps, 40 Poetry/Seminars, 44 Veterinary Treatment Camps were conducted in these week-long celebrations in all districts across Tamil Nadu to create awareness about Co-operatives and benefits to the public through Co-operatives. A total of 3,872 saplings were planted at 1,500 locations.
- Even though various loans like crop loans, jewel loans, women self-help group loans, TAMCO, TABCEDCO, TAHDCO loans, small business loan, women entrepreneur loan, housing loan, home mortgage loan and salary loan are continuously being provided through the co-operative sector to improve the livelihood of the poor and downtrodden persons, transgenders and the differently-abled, during the Co-operative Week alone, 1,11,027 people were given Rs.876.84 crore loans across Tamil Nadu.

Perambalur District

Hon'ble Chief Minister inaugurates Phase-I of JR One Kothari Factory at Eraiyur, Perambalur

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru.M.K. Stalin**, inaugurated Phase-I of JR One Kothari Factory at Eraiyur, Perambalur through Video Conference – 28.11.2023.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin, on 28.11.2023 declared open the JR One footwear manufacturing plant at Phoenix Kothari Footwear Park, in Eraiyur SIPCOT Industrial Complex, Perambalur District. The new plant with an investment of Rs.400 crore will provide employment opportunities to 4,000 persons.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister laid the foundation stone for setting up this factory on 28.11.2022. Exactly one year after that, the factory has been inaugurated.

In India, Tamil Nadu is the leading state in many economic indicators. The Department of Industry, Investment Promotion and Commerce, has been diligently carrying out various activities in order to maintain this pride of place, attract huge investments, create more jobs for the youth of Tamil Nadu, especially women, raise their standard of living and ensure widespread development in the State.

In terms of footwear, the global consumption of non-leather footwear and sports footwear is high. Also, the sector has high growth potential and huge export potential. This sector also generates a large number of jobs.

Realizing the importance of this sector and to encourage huge investments in it, "Tamil Nadu Footwear, Leather Products Policy-2022" was released by Hon'ble Chief Minister on 23.08.2022.

Aiming at inclusive and sustainable development for all, the State Government has set up the Eraiyur SIPCOT Industrial Park in the backward district of Perambalur District. With the establishment of the factory in this park, many jobs will be created for the youth, especially women, of Perambalur District and surrounding areas. This will increase the per capita income of the people of the region and improve the economy. It is noteworthy that the company is also planning to expand by 2028 to provide employment to 29,500 people, with an investment of Rs. 2,440 crore.

Speech of the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin on the occasion

I would like to convey my regards to all of you.

I am delighted to be present at the inauguration of JR One Footwear India Ltd.'s manufacturing project, which is organized by the Industry, Investment Promotion and Commerce Department.

Only on previous year November, I inaugurated SIPCOT Industrial Park at Eraiyur, Perambalur District and also laid the foundation stone for Phoenix Kothari Footwear Park. I am more than happy to speak at the inauguration of the factory, exactly after one year.

Tamil Nadu, the first choice of investors

The main reason for this is the favorable investment climate prevailing in the State.

This is a statement to prove how easy it is to do business here and how Tamil Nadu is the most sought after state for investors.

We are convinced that development projects are meant to create employment opportunities.

As far as the leather and footwear sectors are concerned, this Government has implemented various schemes after taking charge.

In the previous year, I released the Tamil Nadu Footwear and Leather Products Policy 2022. After that we could see huge changes in the industry.

After seeing this type of growth, we are confident that the day is not far off when we will reach the goal of becoming a 1 trillion dollar economy by 2030.

In the leather sector, the Government is taking various measures to further strengthen the position of the State and to attract more international companies.

It is planned to set up a shoe manufacturing park in an area of 250 acres at a cost of Rs.400 crore in Panapakkam, Ranipet District, that will provide employment to 20,000 people.

I would also like to inform you that through the SIPCOT/SIDCO, Public-Private Partnership, the Government is developing Green industrial parks over an area of 30-50 acres for new non-leather footwear manufacturing ready-made factories.

Now in Perambalur District, the inauguration of such a great project is taking place. I always used to say that rapid and balanced growth is better growth.

The inauguration of this project will benefit the Government's efforts to attract investments in backward districts. Through this project, more jobs will be created for the youth, especially women of Perambalur District and surrounding areas.

Today, Kothari Group's JR One Kothari footwear manufacturing plant is being inaugurated with an initial investment of Rs. 400 crore and employment of 4,000 people. By 2028, Kothari Phoenix plans to invest a further Rs. 2,440 crore and to employ 29,500 persons.

All this has instilled confidence in investors. As the crown jewel of all this, we are going to hold the Global Investors Meet in Chennai next January. We are organizing this conference with organizations like yours.

Various companies from all over the world are coming towards Tamil Nadu.

Ahead of that, Phoenix Kothari Company has started this state-of-the-art manufacturing programme, which is very exciting.

As a matter of fact, I recently had a launch event with several companies ahead of the Global Investors Conference.

My best wishes for the success of your business endeavours and the smooth development of your projects!

I conclude my speech by assuring that this Government would do all it could do to make the industry even better.

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135th Birth anniversary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru

News in Picture

On the occasion of the 135th birth anniversary of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, the Hon'ble Governor of Tamil Nadu Thiru. R.N.Ravi, offered floral tribute to a decorated portrait of Pandit Jawaharlal Nehru, kept near his statue at Kathipara Junction in Guindy on 14.11.2023. On the occasion, Hon'ble Ministers, MPs, MLAs, Deputy Mayor of Greater Chennai Corporation, Secretary of Tamil Development and Information Department, Director of Information and Public Relations and other high officials were present.

Hon’ble Youth Welfare Minister inaugurates AI-powered chatbot for skilling youth

The Hon’ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development **Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin** inaugurated various facilities at a function organized by the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation and the Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women, at Kalaivanar Arangam, Chennai - 01.12.2023

The ‘Naan Mudhalvan’ programme for massive skill development, launched by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin in March 2022, has been implemented successfully for the second year in succession. This programme, which was started for the students of engineering, arts and science colleges, was later expanded to benefit the students of polytechnics and vocational training institutes also.

While 13.14 lakh students benefited in the first year, 14.9 lakh students were trained in the second year. They were all trained in the necessary high-tech skills in the educational campuses where they study. Due to this, the higher education curriculum is booming and revolutionizing higher education as it trains a majority of students in innovative technologies and provides employment to most of them in leading institutions.

The Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development Thiru.Udhayanidhi Stalin inaugurated the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation's ‘Ilaya’ platform that uses artificial intelligence technology to answer and guide the youth's employment and skill training needs, with a chatbot called ‘Ilaya’, and helpline number 044-25252626 with Interactive Voice Response system (IVRS) for getting information about skill training. This youth-oriented call centre

is designed to guide youths from any district in Tamil Nadu seeking employment, finding suitable skill training and placements in their district or nearby districts.

Also, a Memorandum of Understanding was exchanged with Johnson Electric, Bose Limited, NLC India, Nettur Technical Training Foundation through 'Naan Mudhalvan' Project in the presence of the Hon'ble Minister to provide recruitment, appropriate skill training and finally employment (Recruit, Train and Deploy Model) to the youth.

The Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation, in an effort to protect the traditional arts of Tamil Nadu imbued with antiquity, tradition and aesthetic beauty, to revive the dying traditional crafts and to attract youth interested in art to become art entrepreneurs, has launched the 'Neeye Unakku Raja' programme. The Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development, Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin presented three beneficiaries with craft boxes to make Thanjavur sculpture, bobblehead dolls and wood carvings.

Wood Carving Skill Training in Kallakurichi, Hand Puppet, Pith Work and Thanjavur Painting in Thanjavur, Palm Leaf Skill Training in Ramanathapuram, Sea Oyster Skill Training in Thoothukudi, Clay, Paper, Pottery, and Hand Dyeing Skill Training in Madurai, Pathamadai Mat, and Pottery Skill Training in Tirunelveli are being offered. Corresponding training is also provided in the respective districts. A stipend of Rs.12,500 per month, tools for training, identification of suitable incubators in association with STARTUP TN, experienced mentorship, equity investment (TANSEED) up to Rs.15 lakh, export skill, Government-assisted bank loan, grant, etc., are offered to turn the aspiring youth into entrepreneurs.

Also, 300 youths out of 5,500 persons who have got job opportunities through the best recruiting and placement agencies identified by the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation, and 1,000 youth who have received skill training and employment on behalf of Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women, through the Charbagh Deen Dayal Upadhyaya Grameen Kalyan Yojana (DDUGKY) scheme, were issued appointment orders by the Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development.

Totally, 2,01,994 persons have been trained and 96,856 persons have got job opportunities in the skill training provided by the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation in the past three years.

On the occasion, the Hon'ble Minister presented employment letters to 1,300 persons who got employment through the youth festivals conducted by the Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women and skill training with employment by the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation.

Around 1.20 thousand youths have got employment in various industries through youth skill festivals, employment camps and youth skill training programmes. In the event held on 01.12.2023, job orders were given to the selected persons in the employment camps conducted by the youth festival.

News in Picture

Visiting and inspecting the works being done in the areas affected by Cyclone Michaung

On behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, Chief Secretary Thiru. Shiv Das Meena, I.A.S., inspected the rainwater drainage works being carried out through the irrigation station on Demallows Road and the garbage disposal work in the Gurusamy canal for easy flow of rainwater at Thiru.Vi. Ka. Nagar region, Pulianthope on 08.12.2023.

Let us know

Move to help home buyers get housing loan

Registration of new flats in multi-storied apartments to be based on composite value of land and building

* At present in Tamil Nadu, registration of sale deeds for flats in multi-storied apartments is done in two ways. That is, a document is registered for purchase of undivided portion of the land and the other is registered as a construction agreement with the developer, for the building portion.

* When flats are sold to the public, they are sold at the price for the land and building area. The practice of registering buildings as construction agreement documents rather than as sale documents is also being followed in Tamil Nadu. But these transactions are recorded as two different documents. 7 per cent stamp duty and 2 per cent registration fee is charged on sale deed and one per cent stamp duty and 3 per cent registration fee on construction agreement.

* In all states except Tamil Nadu, a combined value of building and land is fixed for flats and this value is calculated based on the total area of the building and based on that, it is recorded as a sale document. On the basis that it was decided that this system prevailing in other states can be followed in Tamil Nadu, representatives of real estate organizations from different parts of Tamil Nadu were consulted. Consultation meetings were held with these representatives on 27.07.2023, 07.09.2023 and 12.09.2023 under the leadership of Hon'ble Minister for Commercial Taxes and Registration Department. The representatives of the participating real estate organizations expressed their willingness to register the flats as sale documents based on the combined value. But they wanted the stamp duty for such documents to be reduced.

* The proposal forwarded by the Head of Registration was carefully considered by the Government. The Government has decided to change the situation where a separate document is registered for the undivided part of the land and another for the building to be registered as a single sales document based on the combined value of the building and land and to reduce the stamp duty for registration of new apartments up to a certain value. The Government has decided to reduce the stamp duty on flats worth up to Rs.50 lakh to 4 per cent from the existing 7 per cent and on flats between Rs.50 lakh to Rs.3 crore from 7 per cent to 5 per cent.

* Thus, buyers of new flats worth up to Rs.50 lakh in multi-storied apartments, need to pay stamp duty of 4 per cent and registration fee of 2 per cent, a total of 6 per cent, when registering the sale deed. Buyers of flats worth between Rs. 50 lakh and Rs. 3 crore need only pay stamp duty of 5 per cent and registration fee of 2 per cent, a total of 7 per cent.

* This concession is available only for flats in multi-storied building with undivided plot. And this is applicable only for first sale of flats, not for resale.

* Henceforth, the buyers of flats can take possession of their flats by registering them as a sale deed instead of a construction contract document. This new practice of registering the above stamp duty on the basis of the combined value of the flats with land will come into effect from 01.12.2023. While resale of flats already registered as construction contract documents is currently permitted by the Registration Department, this permission will be withdrawn in respect of such documents registered after 01.12.2023.

* This move by the State Government to offer stamp duty on flat sale deeds based on aggregate value will greatly help middle class home buyers get home loans.

News in Picture

145th Birth anniversary of Moodharignar Rajaji

On the occasion of the 145th birth anniversary of Moodharignar Rajaji, on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, the Hon'ble Minister for Tamil Development, Information and Publicity, Thiru. M.P. Saminathan, Hon'ble Minister for Hindu Religious and Charitable Endowments, Thiru. P.K.Sekar Babu, and Director of Information and Public Relations Thiru. D. Mohan I.A.S., paid floral tributes to a portrait of Moodharignar Rajaji kept near his statue on the campus of the High Court, Parrys, Chennai, on 10.12.2023.

Hon'ble Minister Udhayanidhi Stalin inaugurates scheme of distribution of bicycles to 5,47,676 students

On behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, Higher Secondary students of the Government Higher Secondary Schools and Government-aided schools are given bicycles at no cost to help them commute to their schools without any difficulty. As a part of this scheme, bicycles are given to students of 11th Standard of the Government Higher Secondary Schools and partly-aided Schools, on behalf of the Backward classes, Most Backward classes and Minorities Welfare Department.

A function was held at the Chennai Higher Secondary School, Patel Nagar, Tondiarpet on 24.11.2023 for distributing bicycles to students for the academic year 2023-2024. The Hon'ble Minister Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin, who participated in the function inaugurated the distribution of free bicycles to 5,47,676 students of the 11th standard, on behalf of the Backward classes, Most Backward classes and Minorities Welfare Department. As a token, he distributed cycles to 10 students.

The Hon'ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development, **Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin** distributed bicycles to students -24.11.2023.

KaniTamil 24 International Conference: long-range view for the growth of Tamil computing

- Nearly 25 years after the TamilNet 99 Conference which was held under the chairmanship of Dr.Kalaignar, the Government of Tamil Nadu is planning to host the International KaniTamil 24 Conference at the Trade Centre of the Nandambakkam from February 8 to 10. Teaching Tamil language to Tamil people all over the world, through online, digitizing rare Tamil documents and books and development of Tamil computing tools are the primary tasks of the Tamil Virtual Academy. This Academy is co-ordinating the international conference.
- After the TamilNet 99 Conference, the technological advancements are immense. Although we started talking about Artificial Intelligence at the end of the last century, it is emerging in a big way only in recent times. Therefore, this international conference is planned with the aim of strengthening the place of Tamil in this growing age of technology. Through this conference, an environment can be created to increase the use of the Tamil language in the technological sphere and to turn the new generation towards it. Research papers, talks, debates, discussions and exhibitions are the main components of the KaniTamil24 Conference.
- As a part of the international conference, the Tamil Virtual Academy along with StartupTN is organizing a Hackathon competition. Through this competition, it is planned to bring out the richness of Tamil in modern technologies such as natural language analysis, machine learning, artificial intelligence and other digital technologies and to inspire innovative thinking.
- Promoting the creation of innovative tools that enhance the use and understanding of Tamil in the digital age, creating an environment wherein linguists and technologists work together to create technologies in Tamil, creating solutions to bring Tamil for a wide range of users across platforms such as education, content creation, communication, and to create an environment for the enriched usage of Tamil in artificial intelligence technology are the aims of the competition.
- Programming competition is conducted on more than 20 topics including Tamil OCR, Tamil Speech Recognition, Tamil Content Creation, Tamil Chatbot and Tamil Language NLP. Students of colleges, universities, enthusiasts and companies working on language technology can participate in this competition.
- The best contributors in this competition will be given an opportunity to present at the 'KaniTamil 24' conference. Prizes will also be given to them during the conference. Also, the tools, software, platforms, technologies etc., developed from the programming competition will be uploaded on www.tamilvu.org website for public use by the researchers.
- It is an effort to bring together dedicated technology experts, visionaries, experienced linguists and the academic community. Through this, the widespread presence of Tamil language and the status of Tamil language in modern technological developments can be brought out. It will be a great experience for the young generation as it will not only be competitive but also a learning process. It will open new doors. For more details on the programming contest: https://www.kanitamil.in/#/hackathon.

Tamil Nadu Day at India International Trade Fair: State's key schemes find place in pavilion

The Hon'ble Minister for Tamil Development, Information and Publicity, Thiru. M.P. Saminathan, on 17.11.2023, lit the lamp to mark the inauguration of Tamil Nadu Day at the 42nd India International Trade Fair 2023 held at the Pragati Maidan in New Delhi, in the presence of Principal Resident Commissioner, Tamil Nadu House, New Delhi, Thiru. Ashish Chatterjee, I.A.S, and the Director of Information and Public Relations Thiru. D.Mohan, I.A.S.

The India International Trade Fair is organized annually by the India Trade Development Corporation for 14 days from November 14 to 27 at Pragati Maidan in New Delhi. In this exhibition, various states, union territories, non-Government organizations, private companies and foreign companies participate and exhibit their Government's development plans, achievements and policies. Foreign companies market the important products manufactured in their country.

This year, the theme for the exhibition is 'Vasudhaiva Kudumbakam - United by Trade'. It means that the world is a family and it is united by trade.

Stalls have been set up by 12 departments for this event, on behalf of the Department of Information and Public Relations, SIPCOT, Tamil Nadu Industrial

Development Corporation (TIDCO), Department of Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises, Tamil Nadu Small Industries Development Corporation (SIDCO), Department of Agriculture, Department of Horticulture and Plantation Crops, Agricultural Marketing and Agri Business Department, Tourism Department, Tamil Nadu Handicrafts Corporation (Poompuhar), Tamil Nadu Women Development Corporation and Tamil Nadu Handloom Weavers Cooperative Society (Co-optex).

At the Tamil Nadu pavilion, on behalf of the Information and Public Relations Department details of the Hon'ble Chief Minister's pioneering projects such as Chief Minister's Breakfast Scheme, Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam, and Pudhumai Penn Thittam were displayed. The Hon'ble Chief Minister's recent visits to Dubai, Singapore, Japan and other foreign countries and MoUs signed to start businesses in Tamil Nadu and the Government's achievements were displayed.

At the pavilion set up on behalf of the Department of Industry Investment Promotion and Commerce, details of the hostel buildings to accommodate 18,000 male workers working in the newly set up SIPCOT factory at Sriperumbudur Vallam Vadagal, SIPCOT Industrial Innovation Centre, Electronic display boards with details of SIPCOT Industrial Parks, SIPCOT Prototype designs of vehicles and components manufactured at the factories are displayed. Also showcased is a prototype design of TIDCO's Neo Tidel. Short films on SIPCOT and TIDCO's key role in the industry are displayed on LED television. The main feature of the exhibition is that the QR Code system has been installed so that the visitors can know the details related to the Global Investors Meet to be held in Chennai in January.

On behalf of the Micro, Small and Medium Enterprises Department, some of the major manufacturing products from the districts of Tamil Nadu have been placed. They are Madurai's famous Sungudi saree, Sivaganga Kandangi saree, Erode Jamakkalam, Tiruppur baniyan, Cuddalore ceramic toys, Kancheepuram Clay toys, Ramanathapuram palm leaf handicrafts, Kanniyakumari fibre door-mats, various food products manufactured with Sago and sago flour, graded and value-added tea dust, available

for sale in attractive pouches and sourced from 16 factories of Ooty's Indcoserve.

In the stall set up on behalf of the Department of Agriculture, a model of the World Cup has been set up to promote the cultivation of small grains as an alternative to rice in order to focus on the importance of small grains in view of the 'Year of Small Grains. Also, 42 types of traditional rice varieties have been displayed and banners showing their medicinal properties have been put up to show the superiority of traditional rice varieties.

The Horticulture and Plantation Crops Department stall showcases the All-Village Integrated Agricultural Development Scheme, which is the most important scheme of the Government to convert all barren lands into wetlands. In this scheme, 16 Departments of the Government are working in co-ordination to achieve self-sufficiency of villages by desilting lakes and canals, digging wells, sinking bore wells, constructing rural roads, planting fruit trees in barren areas of the village, setting up drip irrigation, mushroom cultivation, green huts, grain storage and supply of agricultural machinery. Also, the activities of the National Bamboo Mission, Palm Development Programme, Rainfed Area Development Programme, Coconut Development Project, National Bee keeping and Honey Mission, Group Development Project, which are being implemented on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Horticulture Department, and the Geographical Index given to horticultural products in Tamil Nadu have been displayed.

In the Agriculture Marketing and Agri-business Stall, Agricultural Produce, Value-Added Products produced by Farmer Producer Companies, Traditional Rice Varieties of Tamil Nadu and G.I. Tags of Tamil Nadu products are also displayed.

Co-optex products, Poompuhar products and products made by Women Self Help Groups through Tamil Nadu Women Development Corporation are on sale in their stalls.

A Tourist Information Centre has been set up in the Department of Tourism. Details of important tourist sites located in Tamil Nadu are displayed here. Information and tourism related brochures are provided to the visitors in this venue. Meanwhile,

bookings for tourism and accommodation are also made.

Addressing reporters on the occasion, the Hon'ble Minister said that in the Tamil Nadu pavilion set up by the Government of Tamil Nadu at the India International Trade Fair, stalls have been set up by various Government Departments to display the Government's projects and achievements. Apart from that, measures taken to promote industry in Tamil Nadu have also been explained. Tamil Nadu Day celebrations will be held on 17.11.2023 in this exhibition. Various industries have come to Tamil Nadu in the last two-and-a-half years and the industrial status of Tamil Nadu has progressed from the 13th position to the 3rd position in India after the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu took charge.

Tamil Nadu is leading in manufacturing of software and spare parts and accessories in a way that it can take the top position at the national level in software. Tamil Nadu is progressing in terms of earning more foreign exchange in exports. In this situation where progress has been made in various ways, I am proud to celebrate Tamil Nadu Day by setting up a pavilion on behalf of Tamil Nadu 'to unite through trade' in New Delhi. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu is planning to hold a Global Investors Meet in January to invite all possible entrepreneurs from around the world to start new businesses in Tamil Nadu and preparations are under way for the same. Therefore, there is no doubt that it will be successful and various industries will be set up and employment opportunities created for the educated youth and people of Tamil Nadu and their economy and the economy of the Government of Tamil Nadu will definitely improve. In that way, this exhibition will bear testimony to it".

In this event, on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Government's Department of Art and Culture, Bharathanattiyam, Silambattam, Karagattam, Oyilattam, Kolattam and other traditional art programmes were held.

Gandhian thought

" Let us instill into the minds of the youth the fact that Gandhi's ideas are a unique weapon to lead the Indian nation which is facing various challenges related to caste, religion and race. "

-Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu **Thiru. M.K.Stalin**

Let us know

230 basic works at an estimate of Rs.929.37 crore in Corporations, Municipalities and Town Panchayats

- The Atal Urban Development Programme aims to ensure complete water resource security in urban areas, provide drinking water connection to all houses, sewage and solid waste management, recycling/ reuse of used water, augmentation of existing sewerage systems, and creation of green spaces and parks. A plan for urban rejuvenation and transformation (Amrut 2.0) is being implemented.

- On behalf of the Municipal Administration and Water Supply Department of the Government of Tamil Nadu, under the Amrut 2.0 scheme, 24x7 supply of drinking water in selected areas of Karaikudi and Rajapalayam Municipalities, Vellore, Tirunelveli, Thoothukudi, Nagercoil, Tiruchirappalli, Tambaram, Cuddalore, Erode and Avadi Corporations, is to be executed at a total cost of Rs.330.12 crore. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has given administrative permission to implement the selected pilot water zones in the above corporations.

- Administrative permission has been given for implementation of underground sewerage project for the omission areas of Karaikudi Municipality, at a cost of Rs.33.71 crore and for the omission areas of Madurai Corporation, at a cost of Rs.452.42 crore, also under the Amrut 2.0 scheme.

- 17 works to restore water bodies, at a total cost of Rs. 11.07 crore and 27 works to create green spaces and parks, at a cost of Rs.8.94 crore will be taken up in various Municipalities and Corporations.

- Drinking water development projects, at a total cost of Rs.46.74 crore, will be implemented for Namakkal District, Mohanur, and Andhiyur in Erode District.

- A total of 59 water body restoration projects, worth Rs.17.49 crore and 110 green spaces and parks projects, worth Rs. 27.91 crore, will be taken up in various municipalities.

- A fund of Rs. 97 lakh has been allocated to carry out rainwater harvesting awareness activities, on behalf of the Chennai Metropolitan Water Supply and Sewerage Board.

- With this, the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has given administrative permission to execute 230 works at a total estimate of Rs.929.37 crore.

- To improve the conditions for a healthy life, the selected cities in the above projects will be able to become self-sufficient in their drinking water needs, treat their sewage in a safe manner, upgrade their water bodies and also have green spaces and parks to that end.

Seminar on 'Dr. Kalaignar as Journalist'

A seminar on ‘Kalaignar as Journalist’, on behalf of the ‘Journalist-Kalaignar’ Centenary Committee was held at the Hindustan Arts and Science College, Coimbatore, on 20.11.2023. The seminar was presided over by the Hon'ble Minister for Housing and Urban Development, Thiru.S.Muthusamy and held in the presence of the Hon'ble Minister for Tamil Development, Information and Publicity/Chairman of the Journalist-Kalaignar Centenary Committee, Thiru. M.P.Saminathan, Hon'ble Minister for Minorities Welfare and Non-Resident Tamils Welfare/ Vice-Chairman of the Journalist-Kalaignar Centenary Committee, Thiru. Gingee K.S.Mastan, Hon'ble Minister for Milk and Dairy Development/ Vice-Chairman of the Journalist-Kalaignar Centenary Committee, Thiru. T.Mano Thangaraj. At the seminar, a special issue on ‘Journalist- Kalaignar’ was presented by Padma Shri Dr. G. Bakthavathsalam, President of KG Hospital and the same was received by Tmt. Saraswathi Kannaiyan, Secretary of Hindustan Educational Institutions.

Following this, under the presidentship of Kavignar Vairamuthu, a seminar on the multifaceted personality of Kalaignar was held with the participation of Tmt. Parveen Sultana, Kavignar Kavidasan and Pulavar Senthalai N. Gauthaman.

In this seminar, Director of Information and Public Relations/Member Secretary of Journalist-Kalaignar Centenary Committee, Thiru.D.Mohan I.A.S., District Collector, Thiru. Kranthi Kumar Pati I.A.S, Corporation Mayor Tmt. Kalpana Anandakumar, Members of Journalist-Kalaignar Centenary Committee, Thiru. Nakeeran Gopal, Thiru. K.Babu Jayakumar (Deccan Chronicle) Thiru. Arun Ram (Times of India), Thiru. Kovi Lenin (Journalist), Deputy Mayor Thiru. R.Vetriselvan, former MLA Thiru.N. Karthik, Vice President of National Conservancy Workers Welfare Board Tmt. Kanimozhi, Zonal Committee Leaders, Corporation members and Higher Officials were present on the occasion.

Fostering innovations, entrepreneurship among students in Tamil Nadu

- On behalf of the Entrepreneurship Development and Innovation Institute (EDII), a prize distribution function was organized at the Anna University, Chennai for the Inventions of students. In the function, Hon'ble Minister for Micro, Small and Medium enterprises, Thiru. T.M. Anbarasan distributed Rs.32.50 lakh to 25 student groups, under the Innovation Entrepreneurship Development Programme and 30 student groups, under the School Innovators Programme for the 55 inventions of students.

- In today's rapidly-advancing world of science, although fields such as bio-technology, nano technology, artificial intelligence, robotics and artificial intelligence are emerging, innovations are necessary for India if it is to compete with the rest of the world. The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu has been announcing and implementing various new programmes to identify innovative young people in Tamil Nadu and encourage them to create such innovations.

- Various types of training are provided by EDII to encourage the innovative thinking of youth and students. So far 26,410 youths under the Entrepreneurship Development Program, 13,764 youths in collaboration with Government Departments like Rural Development, Information Technology, TAHDCO, District Industrial Center, 3,05,669 college students under the Innovation Entrepreneurship Development Programme, and 74,969 students through Incubation Centres in 97 Government/ private colleges have been trained. Entrepreneurship training has been provided to 8,98,812 youth and students so far under the Innovation Development Programme and 4,78,000 school students have been taken over.

- Educated youth and academics are motivated to research designs for their new inventions and develop and market them. Financial assistance ranging from Rs.2 lakh to Rs.5 lakh is provided under the credit scheme for innovations.

- In the last 2 years, 266 innovators have been given financial assistance of Rs.7.39 crore under this scheme.

- Also, Incubation Centres have been set up in 101 Government and private colleges.
- Out of which 29 Incubation Centres have been installed and upgraded with new machines and labs at a cost of Rs.19.84 crore.
- 89 students and entrepreneurs have benefited by creating inventions using the Government's entrepreneurship development incubation centre.
- For college students to learn how to start a new business during their student years, 51 hubs have been set up for 1,545 college students in Tamil Nadu at 31 places to benefit from entrepreneurship centers to provide assistance and advice to start a business.
- Out of this, 50 students have been given financial assistance to the tune of Rs.50 lakh.
- The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu announced the Rs.One crore for School Innovation Development Project last year to nurture innovative thinking among students.
- According to this, in 4,343 Government and Government-aided schools, students in classes 9 to 12 are being given an awareness and counselling programme to become entrepreneurs.
- Through this scheme, 40 teams of students will be awarded a cash prize of Rs.25,000 to Rs.One lakh each and a certificate of appreciation for their best innovations. At the MSME Day function held last June, under the auspices of the Hon'ble Chief Minister, the 10 best student groups who won at the state level were given financial assistance totalling Rs.10 lakh, at the rate of Rs.One lakh each.
- 1,000 youth will be given entrepreneurship and innovation diploma courses on a rotation basis.
- For this purpose, the EDII training centre in Guindy is being renovated, at a cost of Rs.4.41 crore to train 320 youths.
- Also, a training centre is being set up at the EDII headquarters at a cost of Rs.1.72 crore on 10,260 square feet to train 260 youths. These works will be completed soon and classes will start.
- So far, 153 start-up companies – including SC/ST start ups – have been given equity investment of Rs.41.96 crore through Startup TN to commercialize innovations.
- To develop new innovators into start-up companies and start-up companies into MSME companies, 3 types of self-employment schemes are being implemented in the MSME sector.
- Since taking charge, 26,121 educated youths have been developed as new entrepreneurs by disbursing Rs. 3,312.16 crore bank loans with Rs. 892.94 crore as subsidy.

Schemes hailed by the people

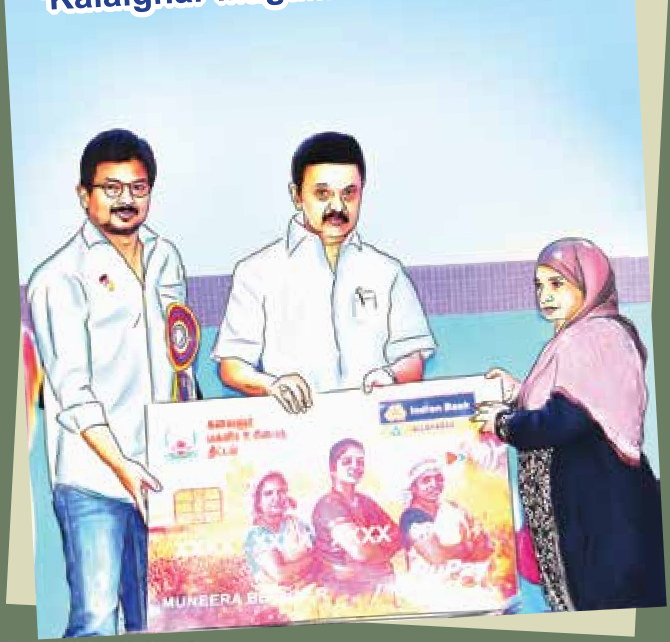
THEN...

Muthamizharignar Kalaignar launched the distribution of land under the '**Free Land Scheme**' to the landless poor, small farmers and to families of poor workers, at a function at Thiruvallur on 17.09.2006, to provide them a livelihood, guide them in their lives and improve their standard of living. On that day, 26,321 acres of land were cultivated and given to 24,949 poor farming families.

'Free Land Scheme'

NOW...

'Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam'



The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin launched the '**Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam**' on 10.11.2023 at Kalaivanar Arangam, Chennai, for 7.35 lakh new beneficiaries, whose pending applications were finalized after a field survey, with the aim of recognizing the hard work of women who have been working tirelessly throughout their lives without any reward. Since that day, a total of 1,13,84,300 women have been receiving Rs. 1,000 every month under the 'Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam'.

'Powerful in life, powerful in death'

Uthamar Gandhi, who is known as the father of the nation, sacrificed his life for his attack on fanatics of caste and religion and today the whole of India celebrates his death anniversary as "Abolition of Untouchability Day – Abolition of Religious Fanaticism Day".

Both Mahatma Gandhi life and death caused a great political change in India. During his lifetime, Thanthai Periyar, who advocated his principles without fully accepting his practices, published a press statement on the day after Mahatma Gandhi death. That statement showed how much attachment, affection, value and respect Periyar had for Gandhiji. In his press statement, Thanthai Periyar said, "Mahatma Gandhi was killed by a religious fanatic. Therefore, India should henceforth be called 'Gandhi Desam' to honor the name of the martyr".

Thanthai Periyar, who was a staunch Gandhian and a man of principles, disagreed with Gandhi and started a movement in Tamil Nadu. On behalf of his movement, he said that India should be named 'Gandhi Desam'.

The statement stopped with Periyar. There was no one to take it forward. But today we are having to install Mahatma Gandhi statues. One cannot help regretting that this country was not named after him. However, those who were devoted to the nation and respected the sacrifices of Mahatma Gandhi, were happy to name their children 'Gandhi'.

*-Speech of **Muthamizharignar Kalaignar** at the unveiling of the statue of Annal Gandhi Adigal at Ranipet on 16.02.2008 ...*

Netaji dreamt of a nation based on equality and fraternity

Some people here pointed out that Netaji was particular that a society without caste, creed and religion should be created. I would like to convey to you some of the views expressed by Netaji for an egalitarian society.

"If we take liberty as the moola mantra of our life, and if we regard it as the driving force of all our action and energy, then it is necessary to establish programmes for social reform as the foundation of our freedom. From that point of view, freedom is nothing but social revolution".

"Independence for all societies means freedom for both men and women without any gender discrimination. In this distribution of freedom, there should be no distinction between high and low. There should be no difference between rich and poor. Rich and poor, young and old, all castes, the majority-minority communities, should experience freedom. If you look into it, then it will be clear that freedom and equality are nothing but fraternity.

"If the society is to be rescued from its shackles, equal rights should be given to men and women in every social administration and law-making. If a society, by its social set up, looks down upon a person as inferior by birth or class, it should eradicate such impediments without the slightest hesitation and without any mercy. Everyone should be given the opportunity to excel in education and human excellence. A young person should not be neglected for being slight in body or knowledge. The youth should be given a role to improve society. Everyone should be given equal power in the social, political and economic sphere. If there is an imbalance, it is unfortunate. In the new society we will establish, equal rights, equal opportunity, equal property rights, equal status, elimination of all discrimination, removing colour or class discrimination, and freedom from the rule of outsiders should be its main principles.

"Friends, you might think these are my wishful thinking; some of you might think I am living in a dream world; you may think that what I say are blabbering that don't suit our contemporary society, I confess that I am a useless person.There is no choice but to admit one's mistakes. Yes, I am a dreamer. But I love this dream. As far as I am concerned, I am confident that this dream will wholly become a reality through hard work. Some people may consider these as castles in the air, but they inspire me and serve as the bulwark for my efforts. It gives me hope in life," said Netaji confidently, when he hoisted the flag for Indian freedom, even when he stood on the final battlefield. What we see may be a dream, but it is a dream that can be fulfilled.

- Speech of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar at the unveiling of the statue of Netaji Subhas Chandra Bose on Kamarajar Road, Chennai on 15.12.1997.

Essay

Achievements of Information Department

By Dr. S.Krishnasami

Newspapers report events. But the magazine, published on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu, documents the messages it receives along with Government Orders. That is why the magazine is also known as historic document.

A time dawned when the British Government in India realized the need for a Information and Publicity Department. People had been subjected to great suffering by the flames of war let loose by the German dictator Hitler. On February 16, 1942, the British Government appointed a War Propaganda Officer and the Secretary of the District War Advisory Committee to create awareness among the people of India about the justice on their side and the grave dangers of Hitler's dictatorship during World War II, and to enlist Indian support for the war. On behalf of the British Government, Harvey was appointed and the team completed its work.

After the end of the Second World War, it was emphasized that the construction works of the country should be continued like the war time efforts and that the Information and Publicity Department should work as a bridge between the people and the Government. For that the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Chennai Presidency, 'Andhra Kesari' Thiru. Prakasam, appointed Thiru. C.V. Hanumantha Rao as the Director of the Publicity Department.

Initially, Thiru. Bhaktavatsalam was the Hon'ble Minister of Publicity. When Moodharignar Rajaji was the Hon'ble Chief Minister, Thiru. C. Subramaniam was the Hon'ble Minister of Publicity. Even during Karmaveerar Kamarajar's tenure as Chief Minister, the Publicity Department did well. The then Director of Publicity, Thiru. K. Thiraviyam did an excellent job and brought more pride to the Department.

In 1958, Thiru.Kuzhandaivelu served as the Director and in 1968 Thiru.D.V. Vasudevan. The Information and Publicity Department operated in an excellent manner during 1967-1969, when Perarignar Anna was the Hon'ble Chief Minister. After 1969, when Muthamizharignar Kalaignar became the Chief Minister, the Information and Publicity Department got a big boost. Information centres were started in Chennai, Thanjavur and Madurai.

Publication of the Tamilarasu magazine

When Muthamizharignar Kalaignar left for the USA on 01.07.1970 for eye treatment, a send off ceremony was organized for him the previous day, 30.06.1970, at Kalaivanar Arangam, Chennai. In that function, the Tamilarasu magazine was launched for the first time in Tamil and English. While the Tamil version of Tamilarasu was a fortnightly, the English Tamilarasu was a

monthly magazine. The Tamilarasu Press was started on 09.10.1972.

Not only Tamilarasu, but many magazines such as Thittam, Vilaiyattu Madal, Uzhaipavar Ulagam, Thirukkoil and Tamil Kalvi, were also published on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu. Several magazines like Seerani, Mozhiselvam, Arogya Maargam, Makkal Nalvazhvu, Kalvi, Bagyalakshmi and Tamil Nadu Seithi were also published. On 01.01.1997, the Government published a new type of poster magazine called Government News.

On the occasion of the unveiling of Thiruvalluvar's statue held on behalf of the Government of Tamil Nadu at Kanniyakumari, a special issue by name 'Kottam Mudhal Kumari Varai' was released. In a similar manner, special issues were released from time to time, on special occasions. In 1997-1998, the Tamil Nadu Information Technology Centre was established, which improved the quality and technical capacity of Government publications.

The Government of Hon'ble Chief Minister Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, who was in power in Tamil Nadu from 2006 to 2011, did a lot of good things for the development of the Information and Publicity Department and for the welfare of journalists. Only a few of them are mentioned here.

Houses were provided to journalists through the Tamil Nadu Housing Board. Pension for retired Journalists and family pension was increased. A Journalist Welfare Fund was created with a corpus fund of Rs. One crore and the benefits of Kalaignar Medical insurance scheme for life-saving advanced treatment was extended to journalists.

A new building was constructed for the Madras Reporters Guild in the Omanthurar Government Estate. Statues are erected for many freedom fighters, leaders, and Tamil scholars and memorials are maintained by this department. Commemorative postage stamps were issued for the martyrs of freedom struggle by the Union Government through the initiative of the Government of Tamil Nadu.

The Silver jubilee of India's Independence was celebrated with éclat all over the country in 1972. At that time Muthamizharignar Kalaignar was the Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu. The Government under him celebrated the Silver jubilee of India's Independence in a grand manner.

In 1997, as Chief Minister, Muthamizharignar Kalaignar hoisted the national tricolour at Fort St.George and celebrated the Golden Jubilee of India's independence in a grand manner.

On the occasion of the Silver Jubilee of Independence Day and on the Golden Jubilee of Independence, Tamilarasu magazine published special issues adding lustre to the celebrations.

After the silver jubilee celebration of India's independence and till 1973, only the State Governors were given the right to hoist the national flag in the states on Independence Day and Republic Day.

After the Rajamannar Committee report on Centre-State relations, in 1974, Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Muthamizharignar Kalaignar placed a demand before the Hon'ble Prime Minister of India, Tmt. Indira Gandhi, that the right to hoist the National Flag on Independence Day should be given to the Hon'ble Chief Ministers elected by the people in their respective states.

Accepting the demand of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, the Union Government issued an order giving the right to hoist the National Flag on Independence Day by the respective Chief Ministers of the states. As per the

order, Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, the then Chief Minister, hoisted the National Flag for the first time at the Independence Day Celebrations in Chennai on August 15, 1974, at Fort St.George. It was a milestone in the history of Indian democracy.

The Government of Tamil Nadu, headed by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin, also celebrated India's 75th Independence Day in a grand manner.

Special floats decorated with sculptures commemorating the sacrifices of the freedom fighters were part of the Republic Day parade in New Delhi, on behalf of Tamil Nadu.

In addition, the Information and Public Relations Department of the Government of Tamil Nadu made three special vehicles engraved with the images of the martyrs of the freedom struggle and sent them all over Tamil Nadu to add greater pride to the 75th Independence Day. It is remarkable that the department has organized exhibitions in the major cities of the districts to show the pride of the martyrs of the freedom struggle.

It is commendable that the Information and Public Relations Department is doing a great job of taking the Government programmes to the people.

- From Ilakkiya Malar 2023.

Women beneficiaries thank Hon'ble Chief Minister for 'Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam'

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin, is always concerned about promoting the welfare of women and in upholding their rights. Various welfare schemes, right from the right to property, separate reservation for women in local bodies to free bus travel are some of the welfare schemes of the State Government for women. The State Government in its annual budget for the financial year 2023-2024 made a historic announcement that Rs.1,000 per month would be given to the women heads of the family, as assured by the DMK in its election assurance. The historic scheme would be launched by the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru. M.K.Stalin, in the centenary year of Muthamizharignar Kalaignar, in the month of September, which is known as the month of Dravidian movement, on September 15, the birth anniversary of the Perarignar Anna.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin, while making a statement about the implementation of the scheme in the Tamil Nadu Legislative Assembly on 27.03.2023, stated that the "Magalir Urimai Thogai Thittam" has two objectives. Recognition of the work of women, who have been working tirelessly throughout their lives regardless of reward is paramount. Next, the entitlement amount of Rs.12,000 per annum is meant to support the livelihood of women, eradicate poverty, raise the standard of living and enable them to live with self-respect.

In this scheme, applications were received and registered from 24.07.2023 to 04.08.2023 in the first phase, from 05.08.2023 to 14.08.2023 in the second phase and through a special camp for the missing persons from 18.08.2023 to 20.08.2023. 1.63 crore applications have been received by the Government to enroll in the Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam. Out of them 1,06,50,000 eligible applications were selected.

The Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu Thiru.M.K.Stalin, launched the Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam, which will benefit 1,06,50,000 women at a function held at Pachaiyappas College for Men campus, Kancheepuram on 15.09.2023. On the occasion, the Hon'ble Chief Minister handed over ATM cards to 13 women as a token of launching the scheme. The money, Rs.1,000

per month, is given to women in recognition of their social contribution and will be paid directly to the bank accounts of the beneficiary.

A beneficiary of the Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam, Tmt. P. Vijaya:

My name is P. Vijaya; my husband's name is Paramasivam, I live in Kavangarai Street, Keezhambi Panchayat, Kancheepuram District. I sell flowers for a living. Every month I used to take a loan for the family expenses due to a shortfall in the family income. But now I am getting Rs.1000 every month through my bank account under Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam. With this money, I am able

to meet my family needs without borrowing from anyone. As a woman, myself-confidence has been boosted through this programme. On behalf of our family, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to the Hon'ble Chief Minister for raising our standard of living through this scheme.

Another beneficiary of the Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam Ms. Priyadarshini:

My name is Priyadarshini. My family is into weaving. I love to study. But due to my

family circumstances, I could not continue my studies. I was very happy when the Kalaignar Magalir Urimai Thittam amount was credited to my bank account. The Magalir Urimai Thittam amount of Rs.1,000 has been very helpful in paying for my studies. I am very proud to hear that Hon'ble Chief Minister termed this amount as Women's Right Fund instead of a helping grant. I was very happy and while I was thinking how I could thank him, I did so by showing the placard –'Thank you, CM Sir', when he came here on his way. I hereby express my sincere gratitude to the Government of Tamil Nadu and the Hon'ble Chief Minister of Tamil Nadu.

-Compiled by
Public Relations Officer,
Kancheepuram

Government Holidays for the year 2024

Sl.No	Public holiday	Date	Day
1.	New Year's Day	01.01.2024	Monday
2.	Pongal	15.01.2024	Monday
3.	Thiruvalluvar Day	16.01.2024	Tuesday
4.	Uzhavar Thirunal	17.01.2024	Wednesday
5.	Thaipoosam	25.01.2024	Thursday
6.	Republic Day	26.01.2024	Friday
7.	Good Friday	29.03.2024	Friday
8.	* Annual closing of Accounts for Commercial Banks & Co-operative Banks	01.04.2024	Monday
9.	Telugu New Year's Day	09.04.2024	Tuesday
10.	Ramzan (Idu'l Fitr)	11.04.2024	Thursday
11.	Tamil New Year's Day / Dr. B.R. Ambedkar's Birthday	14.04.2024	Sunday
12.	Mahaveer Jayanthi	21.04.2024	Sunday
13.	May Day	01.05.2024	Wednesday
14.	Bakrid (Idul Azha)	17.06.2024	Monday
15.	Muharram	17.07.2024	Wednesday
16.	Independence Day	15.08.2024	Thursday
17.	Krishna Jayanthi	26.08.2024	Monday
18.	Vinayakar Chathurthi	07.09.2024	Saturday
19.	Milad-un-Nabi	16.09.2024	Monday
20.	Gandhi Jayanthi	02.10.2024	Wednesday
21.	Ayutha Pooja	11.10.2024	Friday
22.	Vijayadasami	12.10.2024	Saturday
23.	Deepavali	31.10.2024	Thursday
24.	Christmas	25.12.2024	Wednesday

* Applicable only to Commercial Banks and Co-operative Banks in Tamil Nadu.

The Hon’ble Minister for Youth Welfare and Sports Development **Thiru. Udhayanidhi Stalin** inaugurated the ‘**Neeye Unakku Raja**’ scheme to turn youth who are interested in handicrafts into handicrafts entrepreneurs, and distributed tool kits for training in handicraft skills on behalf of the Tamil Nadu Skill Development Corporation and the Tamil Nadu Corporation for Development of Women, at the Kalaivanar Arangam, Chennai, on 01.12.2023.

Tamilarasu

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